

\$5

A-League Round 19 Friday 1st Feb - Sunday 3rd Feb 2013

Still  
Going  
Strong  
Since  
2005



Now Available  
at the  
A-League

Follow us on:



# goal!

## weekly



E: [news@goalweekly.com](mailto:news@goalweekly.com) T: (03) 9551 7538 [www.goalweekly.com](http://www.goalweekly.com) M: PO Box 142 Port Melbourne VIC 3207



**VICTORY  
SOUVENIR POSTER**  
Page 14&15



**HAL ROUND 18  
REWIND**  
Page 5



**BFTP:  
SUMMER SOCCER 1989**  
Page 20



**FAFL CUP WRAP**  
Page 21



**W-LEAGUE GRAND FINAL**  
Page 17



**TIME TO CHOOSE  
RED OR BLUE  
IN MELBOURNE TOWN**

# GREAT DERBY DIVIDE!

PRESTON LIONS FOOTBALL CLUB presents

Boys & Girls Teams | U6's to U18's

## JUNIORS REGISTRATION DAY

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> FEB 2013 | 10am - 1pm**

B.T. Connor Reserve, Cnr Broadhurst Ave & Radford Road, Reservoir

FREE COERVER Coaching Clinic | Melbourne Heart player appearance



[plfc.com.au](http://plfc.com.au)



# Behich's Turkish Delight



Melbourne Heart FC confirms it has agreed to the transfer of Soccerroo full-back Aziz Behich to 2010 Turkish Super Lig champions Bursaspor.

Behich, 22, left for Turkey on Tuesday and will be available for Bursaspor's home clash against Turkish giants Galatasaray this weekend, pending the issuing of his international clearance.

Behich, from the working class Melbourne suburb of Meadow Heights, is one of the great success stories of the Hyundai A-League, having risen from National Youth League outcast to international footballer in the space of three seasons.

"To make a move to a club that plays Champions League football is a dream come true and I really can't thank Melbourne Heart enough for giving me this opportunity," Behich said.

"I have loved my time at Melbourne Heart and all the support that I have received from the members since I joined.

"I will miss them and miss being around my old team-mates."

Heart Head Coach John Aloisi said he was disappointed to lose Behich, but did not want to stand in his way once the Soccerroo decided he wanted to pursue the opportunity.

"To take Aziz from the state leagues of Victoria to face the likes of Didier Drogba and Wesley Sneijder is something Melbourne Heart can be enormously proud of," said Aloisi.

"It hurts to lose him at this stage of the season but how can you stand in the way of a player fulfilling his dreams.

"It's a great opportunity for the club to continue to grow and a chance for Aziz to establish himself as a genuine international for Australia."



Behich makes his move to the European show window

Originally signed as an injury replacement player during Melbourne Heart's inaugural season, Behich was converted by then coach John van't Schip from a winger to an all-action full-back. The switch would see Behich establish himself as a first-team regular, win a nomination for Young Player of the Year, win selection to the PFA Team of the Year in 2012 and, finally, earn full international honours for the Soccerroos.

Since June 2012, Melbourne Heart has transferred youngsters Eli Babalj, Curtis Good, Brendan Hamill and now Behich to leading international clubs despite the quartet having only five A-League games between them prior to joining Melbourne Heart.

Under the terms of the transfer agreement, the transfer fee remains confidential and the club will make no comment.

# Mariners open talks with Asian investors



The Football Centre of Excellence at Tuggerah



Central Coast Mariners are pleased to announce that two Asian football investment groups will soon visit Gosford to open

talks about investment opportunities in the Club and its Centre of Excellence at Tuggerah.

The two groups are among several interested parties who have received and reviewed an extensive Information Memorandum on the Central Coast Mariners.

The Mariners Board of Directors formally invite further expressions of interest by investors locally, nationally and globally as the Club strives to accelerate its growth plans and capitalise on additional business opportunities available to it.

Central Coast Mariners Chairman Peter Turnbull said it's the right time for the Club to further broaden its capital base, having completed the start-up and formative phase, and achieved an enviable position in Australia's national competition, the Hyundai A League.

"This is exciting juncture in the club's short, yet proud history," said Mr Turnbull.

"We are currently top of the Hyundai A-League and National Youth League and we are the reigning premiers in each competition. The Mariners will this year compete in the Asian Champions League for the third time and is on track to do so again in 2014.

"The on-field success is underpinned by the Club's unique, innovative Centre of Excellence complex, which is well underway. The Tuggerah facility is now home to the Mariners' entire football department and has a thriving community facility in the Soccer5s complex, which is open and doing an excellent trade."

Next year, the Central Coast Mariners Centre of Excellence will see further developments towards a 130-room hotel, licensed clubhouse, six storey office tower and an aquatic centre, in addition to the training facilities, football administration block, and leisure amenities launched last year.

Mr Turnbull said the Mariners brand was known internationally, having its players sought after by top clubs in

Europe and Asia.

"This year also marks the second full year of the Club's elite Academy pathway, providing gifted local juniors with the opportunity to progress from their grassroots side to the Hyundai A-League and beyond," he said.

"In order to consolidate the Club's position as Australia's top nursery for football talent and build upon the impressive achievements made by the franchise since its foundation in 2004, Central Coast Mariners FC are currently assessing a range of additional investment options to underpin its strategic growth plan moving forward."

Over the past few months, the Mariners have been contacted by a number of groups expressing an interest in investing in the future development and expansion of the organisation. These expressions of interest include the possibility of direct investment from local and foreign consortiums and individuals, as well as the option of an initial public offering (IPO) which would see the Mariners as the first publicly owned football club in Australia.

## SHORT PASSES

### Brisbane bolsters strike force



Brisbane Roar can confirm it has signed Dutch youth international Stefan Nijland on loan from Dutch giants PSV

for the remainder of the season.

The 24-year-old is expected to join his new team mates at training on Thursday and, pending clearance paperwork, could be available for selection in Friday night's clash with the table-topping Central Coast Mariners.

Nijland can play anywhere across the front line, providing Head Coach Mike Mulvey with more options in the attacking third of the pitch.

Mulvey said he was excited by the prospect of pairing Nijland with the club's current Golden Boot winner Besart Berisha.

Nijland played his last game on Friday, featuring in a friendly match against Sparta Rotterdam.

### Van Den Brink Released



Perth Glory have released Bas van den Brink from the final three months of his contract.

At the request of the defender, Perth Glory agreed to mutually terminate his contract and he has signed with Indian Premier League side, Churchill Brothers FC. Since joining Perth Glory in 2011, van den Brink played 42 games and scored 1 goal.

### KFC recommits to Melbourne Victory



KFC has recommitted to Melbourne Victory in its capacity as the club's official sleeve partner, extending its relationship for another two Hyundai

A-League seasons until the end of the 2014/15 campaign.

The KFC brand is a household name right around the world and the global giant has been unwavering in its support of the club over the eight seasons of the competition.

## Grasshopper Soccer

Real Soccer Fun For Kids Aged 2 to 12!

**FREE COME & TRY CLASS AT ANY TIME!**

MUST BOOK!

TERM 1, 2013 Starts from February 1st

Great thing about our soccer program is that  
YOU CAN JOIN IN THE FUN AT ANYTIME!

Australia's #1 Non-Competitive Soccer Program

TO FIND YOUR NEAREST LOCATION AND TO ENROL, GO TO  
**GRASSHOPPERSOCCER.COM.AU**

GET OUTDOORS, BE ACTIVE & BE YOUR OWN BOSS!  
**GRASSHOPPER SOCCER NOW FRANCHISING!**

LOCATIONS  
ACROSS  
MELBOURNE

TEACHING  
KIDS SOCCER FOR  
OVER 20 YEARS  
AUSTRALIA WIDE



# Grella Calls It a Day



Vince Grella with Heart coach and former Socceroo team mate, John Aloisi. Photo: JIM WEBSTER / BREATHING FOOTBALL

 **Former Australian international Vince Grella has retired from football after tearing his calf in his A-League debut for Melbourne Heart.**

Having signed with Heart in October, Grella took over three months to get on the pitch in a competitive fixture, coming off the bench in his side's 1-0 defeat away to Western Sydney Wanderers on Saturday. But having reportedly injured his calf in Saturday's game at Parramatta Stadium, Grella has retired after just 211 minutes of top-flight football in the past two years. "After 17 years of professional football my body has told me it's enough," Grella said in a statement released by Melbourne Heart on Monday. "I need to thank (Heart head coach) John Aloisi and the club for giving me a final chance to continue as a professional. "I felt the club's culture was the perfect place for me to be and it's

# Wheelhouse and Jets Part Ways

 **The Newcastle Jets and Jobe Wheelhouse have agreed to mutually part ways, effective immediately.** After the Club advised Wheelhouse he would not be re-signed for next season, he decided it would be in the best interest of both parties to stand down for the balance of the 2012/13 season. "It goes without saying that I am disappointed I won't be at the Jets anymore," Wheelhouse said. "Over the last six to 12 months my head hasn't been it in like it should be, and this will now give me a chance to get away and plan my future. "There is no point being at a place when my heart isn't in it and the last thing I want to do is let down my teammates." The Jets respect Wheelhouse's decision to stand down immediately. "This hasn't been an easy process and we hoped Jobe would play out the remainder of the season," CEO Robbie Middleby said. "We have worked through this process to ensure the best outcome for Jobe's future, which is why we have agreed to his request. "We thank Jobe for his contribution to the Club and wish him all the best



in the future." Wheelhouse will take some time out from football to decide on his future. "I felt this was the best decision for me and I appreciate the Club supporting my decision," Wheelhouse added. "I haven't ruled out playing in the future, I just need time to sort out what I want to do. "I am good mates with all of the boys and I wish them only the best for the future. "Hopefully they will make the six and go deep into the finals this year."

# Kosmina Quits Adelaide Job



 Adelaide United have suffered a blow with coach John Kosmina resigning from his job citing a 'lack of trust' with certain people at the club. The Reds are currently sitting fourth in the A-League but have spent the majority of the season in the top two. "Before last weekend we had been first or second in the league and were recognised as a good football team. However, apart from survival, I can see no clear direction. There is no vision. Decision-making at management level is reactive and impulsive at best, and there is no consistency in managerial procedure," Kosmina said. "There is far too much whispering in corridors and around corners. I feel sorry for Rob Gerrard, and I also feel for directors Richard Noble and Phil Lounder - people I trust. But I simply cannot, and will not, work in an environment which otherwise lacks trust." Kosmina first coached Adelaide in the NSL in 2003, maintaining the role for the inaugural A-League season in 2005, and led the Reds to the premiership and grand final in 2007. The former Socceroo captain resigned shortly after losing the 2007 grand final 6-0 to Melbourne Victory but returned to coach his hometown club after Adelaide parted ways with Rini Coolen in 2011. "When I was approached by (chairman) Greg Griffin on December 17, 2011, to take over from Rini Coolen, I accepted the job with an open mind and open heart," Kosmina said. "There is a big space in my heart for the club I helped set up almost 10 years ago. I was, and still am, proud of what was achieved, and the culture that was put in place in those early years. "I was more than aware, upon accepting Griffin's offer, that many of those principles had been eroded over time. But I was prepared to give it a shot just the same." Kosmina said he had confidence in the playing squad and certain staff - notably leaving Griffin's name absent - and wasn't sure what his next move would be. "The playing group is good. I believe I put a squad together that can be successful, and I believe it will be. They are a good bunch of guys and I wish them success," he said.

# Socceroos Announced For Romania Clash



**Qantas Socceroos Head Coach Holger Osieck has named a 19-player squad for the upcoming international friendly match against Romania which will now be played at the Estadio Ciudad de Malaga, Malaga, Spain on Wednesday 6 February 2013 (kick-off 8:45pm local, 6:45am AEDT).**

Rhys Williams returns to the Qantas Socceroos squad after successfully recovering from a serious ankle injury that he sustained in August last year.

Also returning to the Qantas Socceroos squad after varying periods of absence are Jason Davidson, Adam Federici and Michael Zullo.

Osieck is looking forward to using this match to assess the level of his players ahead of the all important 2014 FIFA World Cup Asian Qualifier against Oman on Tuesday 26 March in Sydney.

"I had a good look at the Australian-based and Asian-based players in Korea (Republic) and Hong Kong (EAFF East Asian Cup Qualifiers) so this is a good opportunity for me to check the performance of the European-based players that I haven't seen since last October," said Osieck

"Over the past week or so, I have also been scouting a number of players throughout Europe, so I have a good idea on where they are currently at, but being in camp will give me a much better idea.

"One player who was definitely in contention for selection was Adam Sarota, but unfortunately a recent serious knee injury has ruled him out. We wish Adam a safe and speedy recovery and hope to see him on the field soon enough.

"In terms of Romania, it's no secret that they are a quality team, well placed in their qualification group and they play good football.

"It's always good to test ourselves against tough opposition and Romania will be a good yard-stick for us in the lead up to our game against Oman in March, "concluded Osieck

This will be the first meeting between the Qantas Socceroos and Romania at senior men's international level.

The Qantas Socceroos are currently ranked 36th in the FIFA World Rankings whilst Romania are 33rd (as of 19 December 2012).

The Qantas Socceroos are in second position of Group B of the 2014 FIFA World Cup Asian Qualifiers with a win against Iraq (2-1), draws against Oman (0-0) and Japan (1-1) and a loss to Jordan (1-2) at the half way point of the final round. Romania are in third position of Group D in their 2014 FIFA World Cup European qualifiers after 4 matches.

**This match will be broadcast Live and Exclusive by FOX SPORTS in Australia from 6:00am AEDT on Fox Sports 1HD and Fox Sports 1.**

## Socceroo Squad

**Mark BRESCIANO**  
*Al Gharafa, Qatar - 64 caps. (12) goals*

**Alex BROSQUE**  
*Al-Ain Club, UAE - 19 (5)*

**Robert CORNTHWAITE**  
*Chunnam Dragons, Korea Rep - 5 (2)*

**Jason DAVIDSON**  
*SC Heracles Almelo, Netherlands -1 (0)*

**Adam FEDERICI (gk)**  
*Reading FC, England - 7 (0)*

**James HOLLAND**  
*FK Austria Vienna, Austria - 8 (0)*

**Brett HOLMAN**  
*Aston Villa FC, England - 57 (8)*

**Mile JEDINAK**  
*Crystal Palace FC, England - 37 (3)*

**Robbie KRUSE**  
*Fortuna Dusseldorf, Germany - 21 (2)*

**Mathew LECKIE**  
*FSV Frankfurt 1899, Germany - 1 (0)*

**Ryan MCGOWAN**  
*Shandong Luneng, China PR - 2 (0)*

**Matt McKAY**  
*Changchun Yatai FC, China PR - 33 (1)*

**Lucas NEILL**  
*Al-Wasl Sports Club, UAE - 88 (0)*

**Tommy OAR**  
*FC Utrecht, Netherlands - 6 (0)*

**Nikita RUKAVYTSYA**  
*FSV Mainz, Germany - 10 (1)*

**Mark SCHWARZER (gk)**  
*Fulham FC, England 1- 03 (0)*

**Luke WILKSHIRE**  
*FK Dinamo Moscow, Russia - 73 (7)*

**Rhys WILLIAMS**  
*Middlesbrough FC, England - 10 (0)*

**Michael ZULLO**  
*FC Utrecht, Netherlands - 9 (0)*

## SHORT PASSES

### Roar to Donate Profits To Flood Appeal

In response to the weather crisis in Queensland, the Brisbane Roar will donate all profits from general ticket sales to this Friday's game against Central Coast Mariners to the Red Cross Queensland Floods Appeal 2013. In addition to this total, the club's 1303 Club members will also make a donation, while volunteers will collect donations on the night at SunCorp Stadium on behalf of the Red Cross. Brisbane Roar General Manager Sean Dobson said it was important for the club to give what it could to those who had lost everything, many of them for the second time in two years.

### LUSTICA LANDS FOR BRISBANE

 Brisbane Roar has signed Australian youth international Steven Lustica on loan until the end of the club's Hyundai A-League and AFC Champions League commitments. Lustica has been loaned to the club from Croatian powerhouse Hajduk Split. The Canberra-born midfielder has spent two seasons playing his trade in Croatia making 19 appearances – including appearances in the UEFA Europa League - and 10 appearances on loan at second division outfit Dugopolje during the 2011/12 season. Lustica was part of the Gold Coast United team which won back-to-back National Youth League Championships and made four senior appearances for the club before leaving for Hajduk in June 2011. He was also part of the Hajduk side which this season beat Inter Milan 2-0 at the San Siro, coming on as an 83rd minute substitute.

### Trio commit to Victory

 Melbourne Victory is delighted to announce that Nick Ansell, Leigh Broxham and Lawrence Thomas have all inked new deals with the club. Ansell and Broxham have signed contracts that will see them through until the end of the 2015/16 season, while Thomas will remain at the club until at least the end of the 2014/15 season. Melbourne Victory Coach Ange Postecoglou said the trio were an important part of the club's future plans. After recently acquiring young-guns, Francesco Stella, Jesse Makarounas and Scott Galloway, these re-signings are further evidence of Melbourne Victory's commitment to the growth and development of young, Australian-born talent.



Goal! Weekly is seeking budding reporters and journalists to contribute and become involved with this fine football publication. If you think you've got what it takes, then wait no more and give the office a call on (03) 9551 7538. Better still, send us an email at news@goalweekly.com



**WANT TO PLAY SOCCER IN THE USA?**  
**NSR Soccer Australia scout, evaluate & promote Australian players to 2500+ USA Colleges.**



Register for a trial in your region, to find out more visit [www.nsrsockeraustralia.com](http://www.nsrsockeraustralia.com)



## SCOREBOARD

TABLE	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Central Coast Mariners	18	11	5	2	29	12	17	38
2 Melbourne Victory	18	10	3	5	31	28	3	33
3 West Sydney Wanderers	18	10	2	6	22	14	8	32
4 Adelaide United	18	10	2	6	28	24	4	32
5 Newcastle Jets	18	6	4	8	21	29	-8	22
6 Melbourne Heart	18	6	3	9	23	25	-2	21
7 Brisbane Roar	18	6	2	10	21	22	-1	20
8 Sydney FC	18	6	2	10	28	37	-9	20
9 Perth Glory	18	5	4	9	18	19	-1	19
10 Wellington Phoenix	18	4	5	9	21	32	-11	17

THIS WEEK	ROUND 19	FIXTURE	VENUE	LOCAL	AEDT
	Fri Feb 01	Brisbane Roar v Central Coast Mariners	Suncorp Stadium	7:00pm	8:00pm
	Sat Feb 02	Wellington Phoenix v Perth Glory	Eden Park	5:00pm	3:00pm
	Sat Feb 02	Newcastle Jets v Sydney FC	Hunter Stadium	5:30pm	5:30pm
	Sat Feb 02	Melbourne Victory v Melbourne Heart	Etihad Stadium	7:45pm	7:45pm
	Sun Feb 03	Adelaide Utd Western v W Sydney Wanderers	Hindmarsh Stadium	4:30pm	5:00pm

NEXT WEEK	ROUND 20	FIXTURE	VENUE	LOCAL	AEDT
	Thu Feb 07	Central Coast Mariners v Wellington Phoenix	Bluetongue Stadium	7:00pm	7:00pm
	Fri Feb 08	Adelaide United v Melbourne Victory	Hindmarsh Stadium	7:00pm	7:30pm
	Sat Feb 09	Melbourne Heart v Perth Glory	AAMI Park	5:30pm	5:30pm
	Sat Feb 09	W Sydney Wanderers v Newcastle Jets	Campbelltown Stadium	7:45pm	7:45pm
	Sun Feb 10	Sydney FC v Brisbane Roar	Allianz Stadium	5:00pm	5:00pm

## ROUND 18 RESULTS

## Wellington Phoenix 1

(Fenton 21)

## Newcastle Jets 1

(Heskey 74)

Crowd: 6,429 @ Westpac Stadium

## Perth Glory 0

Brisbane Roar 1 (Meyer 15)

Crowd: 7,000 @ nib Stadium

## Western Sydney Wanderers 1

(Ono 73 pen)

## Melbourne Heart 0

Crowd: 14,624 @ Parramatta Stadium

## Melbourne Victory 3

(OG 24, Rojas 72, Thompson 67)

## Sydney FC 1

(Griffiths 75)

Crowd: 26,882 at AAMI Park

## Central Coast Mariners 3

(Duke, 67, 72, McGlinchey 88)

## Adelaide United 1

(Bowles 39)

Crowd: 8,294 @ Bluetongue Stadium

## TOP GOAL SCORERS

13 - Daniel McBREEN

(Mariners)

11 - Marco ROJAS (Victory)

10 - Jeremy BROCKIE

(Phoenix)

9 - Alessandro DEL PIERO

(SFC)

8 - Dario VIDOSIC (Adelaide)

Besart BERISHA (Roar)

Emile HESKEY (Jets)

6 - Ryan GRIFFITHS (Jets)

Jeronimo Naumann (AUFC)

Josip TADIC (Heart)



Former England international Emile Heskey proved his worth in front of goal yet again and scored for the Jets to salvage a point away to the Phoenix.

## A-LEAGUE TEAM OF THE WEEK Round 18

Compiled by  
Steven Talevski

**GK: Ante Covic** – Covic was a solid rock between the sticks saving a Josip Tadic penalty and denying the Heart a late equaliser from a David Williams strike.

**RB: Pedj Bojic** – Bojic was able to help keep the Adelaide attack relatively quiet as the defender also looked dangerous when offering support in attack.

**CB: Nikolai Topor-Stanley** – With the Wanderers down to ten men early in the game, Topor-Stanley stepped up in the centre of defence with another terrific performance minimizing the Heart's attack.

**CB: Michael Beauchamp** – A captain's performance from the Western Sydney central defender as his side went down to ten men but kept a terrific clean sheet.

**LB: Scott Jamison** – Despite the disappointing one nil loss, Scott Jamison had a good game in defence and offered something on the counter to be Perth's only player in Goal! Weekly's team of the week.

**RCM: Billy Celeski** – Returning from suspension, Celeski was at his best and provided a terrific assist to Archie Thompson for Victory's second goal of the game against Sydney FC.

**CM: Mark Milligan** – The Soccerroo is Melbourne Victory's rock in front of defence and proved this on the weekend again as he stopped several Sydney

FC attacks while also beginning a number of Victory attacks as well.

**LCM: Michael McGlinchey** – The New Zealand international was at his best against Adelaide United, playing a crucial role in the Mariners midfield and also providing a late goal.

**RW: Youssouf Hersi** – Hersi was a constant threat for the Wanderers and his hard work rate paid off with the attacker winning a penalty for Western Sydney.

**ST: Mitchell Duke** – Despite being a substitute, no striker had more of an impact than this week than Mitchell Duke as the youngster came off the bench to score twice as the Mariners consolidated their position on top of the table.

**LW: Marco Rojas** – With scouts from European giants Liverpool and Juventus, and possibly more overseas clubs watching the youngster, Rojas looked to take on players and attack and it paid off for the Victory as Rojas' two strikes were both deflected into the back of the net.

**Coach: Tony Popovic** – A familiar name in the coach of the week role, Popovic led his side which was down to ten men from early in the game to a one nil win against the Heart. The crucial three points saw his side move up to third on the table.

## Star Man

Marcos Rojas  
Melb Victory



With his stocks rising, Rojas lived up to his hype on Saturday overshadowing the Melbourne debut of Alessandro Del Piero with a fantastic attacking performance against Sydney FC. With Melbourne Victory aiming for top spot, Rojas is set to play a major role in their chase of Central Coast Mariners.

Thank God It's Friday... GW is available at all good newsagents every Friday

Follow us on: facebook twitter

**Publisher:**  
Alimental Enterprises Pty Ltd  
PO Box 142 Port Melb VIC 3207  
Ph: 03 9551 7538

**Distribution:**  
All Day Distribution  
Tel: (03) 9482 1145

**Advertising:** 03 9551 7538  
**Email:** news@goalweekly.com  
**Letters:** mailbag@goalweekly.com  
**Web:** www.goalweekly.com

Goal! Weekly endeavours to be as accurate as possible with everything it publishes.  
The Fair Trading Act 1999 requires Goal! Weekly to disclaim any belief in the truth or falsity of information which is supplied to it and which is published in other than editorial content.

goal!  
Weekly

If your business or organisation would like to advertise or sponsor a page in GW please contact (03) 9551 7538 for further details



CC Mariners



3

Adelaide United



1

## Match Details

**Central Coast Mariners 3**  
(Duke 68', 72', McGlinchey 88')  
**Adelaide United 1** (Bowles 39')  
Bluetongue Stadium, Gosford

**Central Coast Mariners:** 1. Mathew Ryan (Gk), 2. Daniel McBreen, 3. Joshua Rose, 4. Pedj Bojic, 5. Zachary Anderson, 6. Patrick Zwaanswijk, 7. John Hutchinson (c), 9. Bernie Ibini (29. Nick Fitzgerald 82'), 11. Oliver Bozanic (19. Mitchell Duke 61'), 14. Michael McGlinchey, 18. Nick Montgomery

Substitutes not used: 20. Justin Pasfield (Gk), 13. Brent Griffiths  
Yellow cards: Montgomery 46', Zwaanswijk 83'  
Red cards: Nil

**Adelaide United:** 1. Eugene Galekovic (Gk) (c), 3. Nigel Boogaard, 6. Cassio, 10. Dario Vidosic, 12. Antony Golec, 14. Cameron Watson, 16. Daniel Bowles, 17. Iain Ramsay (8. Marcelo Carrusca 79'), 18. Fabian Barbiero, 21. Jeronimo Neumann (19. Jake Barker-Daish 68'), 23. Evan Kostopoulos (4. Jonathan McKain 75')

Substitutes not used: 20. Paul Izzo (Gk)  
Yellow cards: Neumann 45+1'  
Red cards: Nil

## Cool Hand Mitchell Duke's Noble Efforts

By Adrian Deans

I got my preview completely wrong going into this game. I expected a really close encounter with Adelaide putting pressure on Rose and Bojic to keep the Mariners on the back foot. Instead, the Mariners swept the Reds aside with a high-energy display – missing numerous easy chances in the process – but when you create that many, something has to give.

To be fair, Adelaide have had a crippling injury list over the last few weeks. They've been missing Ferreira, Djite, Carrusca, and those are all first choice attacking players, but what has happened to Osama Malik and why did Kossie let Caravella go with so many other options out?

The standard game pattern for the Mariners this year, especially at home, has been to choke the other team by keeping possession for long periods and then suddenly attack down the sides. They are particularly dangerous at the ends of halves, and in the second half, in particular, they win through superior fitness.

Not this game. The Mariners flew out of the blocks almost as if to snuff out the anticipated Reds pressing game before it started. Chances came thick and fast and Ollie Bozanic in particular will be wondering how he didn't score from two metres out and the keeper nowhere.

With so many easy chances missed, it came as absolutely no surprise when the Reds scored first. Daniel Bowles looked like he was trying to cross to the far post but the ball clipped Bozanic and deflected in.

That's how it stayed until half time, when Tom Rogic was presented to the Mariners fans for the last time before heading back to Glasgow. He will be missed, but wasn't needed on Friday night. The Mariners came back out for the second half and continued as they had begun – dominating possession and causing havoc in the Reds' third.

In particular it was the midfield where Adelaide could not compete –



Michael McGlinchey glances to check if his goal makes it 3-1 to the Mariner's good. Photo: KAREN DOUGLAS

Montgomery and Hutchinson were never closed down, and when they did occasionally win the ball, the Reds gave it straight back every time, inviting the Mariners to attack again. Vidosic and Neumann hardly touched the ball in the second half.

The questions have to be asked: what on earth has happened to Osama Malik and why did Kossie let Caravella go when so many other creative options were out injured. A midfield featuring Malik screening the back two and Caravella pulling the strings would have surely done a better job.

The game changed when Mitchell Duke entered the fray with half an

hour remaining. Only five minutes later he had his first when he controlled McGlinchey's far post cross and lashed it back past Galekovic.

Two minutes later, Bowles was adjudged to have handled the ball in the area and McBreen had the chance to put the home team ahead. Galekovic guessed right and made the save but it was only a matter of time before the Mariners got the chocolates.

Again it was Duke. Now brimming with confidence, he controlled another difficult far post ball with his chest, beat two defenders with his acceleration from a standing start, and drove his shot hard and low in-

side the near post from 20 metres. It was a cracking shot from a young player out of the Matt Simon mould who could easily become a home favourite before too much longer.

McGlinchey sealed the points after midweek signing Nick Fitzgerald cleverly headed back across goal into his path in the 88th minute. It was a comprehensive performance considering it was first versus second, but if the Mariners had their shooting boots on it might have been a cricket score.

Even with the loss of Rogic (and maybe Ibini) the Mariners have a strong team system which goes beyond the component individuals.

They are now five points clear of second, and if they're looking over their shoulders at anyone, it's no longer Adelaide. The only teams that can challenge the Mariners for honours this season are the Victory and Western Sydney.

Adrian Deans is the author of *Mr Cleansheets* – published by *Vulgar Press*, distributed by *Dennis Jones and Associates* and available in all good book stores. Ebook also available. [www.mrcleansheets.com](http://www.mrcleansheets.com)

**Man of the Match**  
Nick Montgomery  
(Mariners)



Central Coast players swamp Mitchell Duke, whose two goals off the bench warrants a Goal-den Super Sub badge of honour. Photo: KAREN DOUGLAS



Adelaide United keeper Eugene Galekovic is unable to stop Mitchell Duke's equaliser to put the Mariners on level terms. Photo: KAREN DOUGLAS



Ask About Your Adelaide United Supporter Special Offer!

Terms and conditions apply, including offer based on standard installation in REC zone 3, with STC's assigned to Unleash Solar. \*Quoted price based on RRP purchase of \$9,655.99. Minimum amount payable \$10,183.41 over a 40 month term, inclusive of Certegy Ezi-Pay fees and required 25% deposit. See in-store for details.

## Eliminate Your Power Bill!

**A HUGE 5kW  
Solar System  
FULLY  
INSTALLED**

25 Year Warranty on Solar Panels - 5 Year Warranty on Inverter

**FROM  
\$45.00  
A WEEK\***  
FOR 40 MONTHS

26 x 195W Panels & 5kW Inverter

OR ASK  
ABOUT  
LESS FOR  
CASH!

**HURRY! OFFER ENDS SOON! MON-FRI 8:30AM-8:30PM SAT-SUN 10AM-3PM**

We only use quality Tier 1 Solar Panels from Jinko one of the world's largest solar panel manufacturers

**1300 350 205**  
**unleashsolar.com.au**

unleash **SOLAR**



Melbourne Victory



3

Sydney FC



1

Match Details

**Melbourne Victory 3**  
(Marco Rojas 24 And 71, Archie Thompson 67)  
**Sydney FC 1** (Joel Griffiths 75)  
AAMI Park  
Crowd: 26,882  
Referee: Chris Beath

**Sydney FC:** 20. Vedran Janjetovic, 2. Sebastian Ryall, 3. Fabio, 6. Jason Culina (21. Yairo Yau '79), 7. Brett Emerton (12. Blake Powell '23, 8. Adam Griffiths '68), 10. Alessandro Del Piero, 13. Tiago, 15. Terry McFlynn (C), 22. Ali Abbas, 23. Rhyan Grant, 29. Joel Griffiths.

Sub Not Used: 33. Matthew Nash (Gk).  
Yellow Cards: Tiago 39, Rhyan Grant 52, Fabio 58, TiaGo 60, Alessandro Del Piero 92, Fabio 93.  
Red Card: Tiago 60, Fabio 93.

**Melbourne Victory:** 39. Nathan Coe (Gk), 3 Adama Traore, 5. Mark Milligan, 6. Leigh Broxham (8. Jonathan Bru '86), 9. Marcos Flores (18. Francesco Stella '76), 10. Archie Thompson (26. Andrew Nabbout '76), 11. Marco Rojas, 13. Diego Ferreira, 14. Billy Celeski, 23. Adrian Leijer (C), 24. Nick Ansell.

Sub Not Used: 1. Tando Velaphi (Gk).  
Yellow Cards: Mark Milligan 47, Nick Ansell 51, Billy Celeski 62, Diogo Ferreira 81.

# Victory Takes Top Honours In Big Blue Derby

By Daniel Quinn

The Melbourne Victory jumped into the top two with a 3-1 win over a nine men Sydney FC in front of a sold out AAMI Park.

A brace from Marco Rojas and a single strike from Archie Thompson set Melbourne on the roar to victory, before Joel Griffiths made the Victory sweat for the last twenty minutes with his second in as many games.

Sydney weren't discipline, though, as Tiago Calvano and Fabio were both sent off.

Back to back wins over Sydney leapfrogs the Victory over Adelaide into second.

With Spase Dilevski and Jimmy Jeggo injured Leigh Broxham started alongside the returning Billy Celeski in the middle of the park, whilst Mark Milligan sat in front of the back four which included Nick Ansell.

The Victory started on the front foot looking to gain the early momentum, but Broxham poked an effort wide, before a trademark Alessandro Del Piero free kick was easily caught by Victory custodian Nathan Coe.

The Victory pushed in the opening minutes and deservedly took the lead as Rojas' long drive deflected off ex-Victory defender Sebastian Ryall before beating Sydney 'keeper Vedran Janjetovic.

The game didn't get any better for the Sky Blues

Match Stats		
4	Saves	5
8	Attempts on target	5
13	Attempts off target	5
51%	Possession	49%
9	Corners	3
5	Offsides	5
17	Fouls committed	27



Pocket Rocket: Kiwi international Marcos Rojas delivers what the fans came to see, at the hottest ticket in town.

Photo: ANITA MILAS

who were dealt with a blow as Socceroo Brett Emerton was forced off just a minute after conceding. It was a bit of a déjà vu moment as the veteran came off injured in this fixture last season.

Sydney were getting into great positions out wide, especially down the left with former Victory fullback Fabio, however, the Sky Blues' delivery was terrible allowing the Victory defence to easily clear.

The Melburnians continued

to push, but only took a one-goal lead into the break after Broxham's curler was well saved and Marcos Flores' acrobatic attempt whistled past the upright.

The second-half was feisty with several bookings, and the sold out AAMI Park erupted as Tiago Calvano, who was already booked, seemed to elbow Broxham. Referee Chris Beath brought out his second yellow, before subsequently producing the red.

Joel Griffiths could have brought the ten men level, although the former Jet missed the golden chance dragging his effort across the face of goal.

The Victory immediately raced to the other end, before Celeski played in Thompson with a peach of a pass, which the Socceros striker dispatched into the back of the net.

Five minutes later the Victory added their third via another deflection. Rojas

maneuvered his way into the box, before his curling effort flicked off substitute Adam Griffiths.

The Sky Blues still fought, though, and cut the margin back to two. Joel Griffiths powered to the edge of the area and drilled his effort past a diving Coe.

Sydney finished with nine men as Fabio was given his second yellow card for a foul on Rojas so marched off with the Victory fans in jubilation.



Archie Thompson celebrates his clinical finish to make it 2-0. Photo: ANITA MILAS



Alessandro Del Piero and Diego Ferreira tangle for supremacy. Photo: ANITA MILAS

**Saturday, February 16**  
**Kick-off 7:45pm**  
**AAMI Park**

[ticketek.com.au](http://ticketek.com.au) or call 132 849











1

1

Match Details

Wellington Phoenix 1  
(Fenton 21)  
Newcastle Jets 1  
(Heskey 74)  
Crowd: 6,429  
Venue: Westpac Stadium

Wellington Phoenix: 1. Mark Paston, 2. Manny Muscat, 3. Tony Lochhead, 7. Leo Bertos, 8. Paul Ifill, 11. Jeremy Brockie, 12. Tyler Boyd (4. Isaka Cernak 74'), 16. Louis Fenton, 18. Ben Sigmund, 21. Dani Sanchez (9. Benjamin Totori 81'), 22. Andrew Durante.

Yellow cards: Lochhead 35'  
Red cards: Lochhead 71'

Newcastle Jets: 20. Mark Birighitti, 2. Scott Neville, 7. James Brown (3. Zenon Caravella 82'), 9. Emile Heskey, 11. Connor Chapman, 12. Joshua Brillante, 13. Samuel Gallaway, 14. Taylor Regan (22. Adam Taggart 90'), 15. Craig Goodwin (17. James Virgili 53'), 16. Jobe Wheelhouse, 23. Ryan Griffiths.

Yellow cards: Regan 17', Gallaway 32'  
Red cards: Gallaway 53'

# Pointless Drought Over For Jets And Nix

By Joe Gallagher

Wellington's weather has been uncharacteristically dry of late, but two teams left Westpac Stadium on Sunday afternoon having put an end to droughts of their own.

Wellington Phoenix had claimed their first point of 2013, while Newcastle Jets had snatched their first result in New Zealand in over five years.

But you could tell that neither side was quite content with the 1-1 draw, such was the way the game played out.

Both coaches will argue that their teams created enough chances to claim the three points – but a draw was perhaps a fair reflection of a scrappy match in which both sides ended with ten men.

Ricki Herbert was without Vince Lia, who had picked up a one match ban for a yellow card in the 7-1 loss in Sydney a week earlier, but welcomed back midfielder Manny Muscat, who had been serving a three match suspension for a stray elbow three weeks ago in Brisbane.

Belgian striker Stein Huysegems was relegated to the bench after a wasteful display in New South Wales, replaced by Paul Ifill, while Alex Smith made way for youngster Louis Fenton in midfield.

Gary van Egmond was without Josh Mitchell and Ruben Zadkovich, but bought Emile Heskey to New Zealand for the first time. The match saw a return to the starting lineup for captain Jobe Wheelhouse.

His side ought to have taken an early lead. A defensive error by Wellington captain Andrew Durante fell kindly for Craig Goodwin, who flashed his shot wide of Mark Paston's left upright. Credit must go to Paston for standing tall in goal, but the young winger – who has been in flying form this season – had missed a golden opportunity to give his side the perfect tonic to their poor form across the ditch.

They were almost made to pay for his wastefulness ten minutes later. A long ball from Ben Sigmund – perhaps Wellington's best on the afternoon – put Herbert's leading goalscorer, Jeremy Brockie, one-on-one with Mark Birighitti. Brockie, now without a goal in four matches, has made a habit of scoring the spectacular this season, but his side-footed effort was well saved by van



Jets keeper Mark Birighitti makes a clean catch in front of Andrew Durante (Phoenix). Photo: PETER McDONALD

Egmond's young keeper.

But the Phoenix were not to be denied much longer. Sigmund again delivered the impetus for the home side's goal with a raking diagonal pass to Ifill. The Barbadian's first touch was exquisite, turning past Scott Neville to make room for the cross. His delivery into a dangerous area deflected off both Birighitti and Spaniard Dani Sanchez, before falling for Fenton to tap home.

In a statistic that says more than enough about Wellington's woes of late, it was the first time since round nine that Herbert entered the sheds a goal to the good.

His afternoon improved ten minutes after the re-start as Sam Gallaway was

given his marching orders. 18-year-old Tyler Boyd, who had one of his more industrious outings down Wellington's right flank, beat the defender for pace, and referee Ben Williams was given no choice but to award Gallaway his second yellow card.

But just as Wellington seemed to be getting comfortable – Fenton came close to a brace after good work on the left by Ifill – their afternoon turned on its head.

With just twenty minutes remaining it was left-back Tony Lochhead's turn to be dismissed for a foolish tackle on substitute James Virgili. From the resulting free-kick, a free header at the back post was parried into the air and Heskey outmuscled Paston to nod the Jets back

into the contest.

Lochhead – who has been under fire from critics in recent weeks – could have done worse than to head straight for the tunnel. Instead, he stood in front of the Yellow Fever to watch as his side were severely punished for his indiscretion.

No doubt his replacement Ian Hogg will receive a warmer reception when he takes Lochhead's place in Auckland next Saturday.

Such has been the trend this season, Wellington seemed to run out of ideas after conceding. Boyd failed to direct a centre from Ifill goalwards, but the match seemed destined for a draw.

Stoppage time, seemingly consisting

of a mutual agreement of time-wasting between the two sides, summed up a match which had failed to reach great heights.

So while the home side will be thankful to be on the board this year, they will be disappointed not to have clung to a lead – a commodity Wellington has found hard to come by this season. They failed to move from the bottom of the A-League ladder.

Meanwhile van Egmond will rue the opportunity to capitalise on a Phoenix side quite clearly in disarray. The point nudges the Jets into second place ahead of a match against ninth-placed Sydney FC next Saturday.



Jeremy Brockie (Phoenix) gets a whiff of Jobe Wheelhouse's (Jets) boot. Photo: PETER McDONALD



Isaka Cernak wasted no time getting a gig across the pond after being released by Melbourne Victory prior to the weekend. Photo: PETER McDONALD

Newcastle Jets Official Merchandise available from:  
Hunter Sports Superstore  
Ausgrid Stadium, 294 Turton Road,  
New Lambton NSW 2305

Get your Jets Gear Online at:  
www.newcastlejets.com.au  
facebook.com/NewcastleJetsFC  
twitter.com/NewcastleJetsFC  
youtube.com/JetsNewcastle

JETS MEMBERS GET 10% OFF MERCH

NEWCASTLE JETS OFFICIAL MERCHANDISE  
BUY DIRECT AND YOU'LL ENSURE 100% OF PROFITS STAY WITH THE JETS

HUNTER SPORTS SUPERSTORE



# PICS OF ROUND 18

Les Shorrocks  
Action Packed  
Picture Page



Archie Thompson reaches 150 games for Melbourne Victory and receives an award from CEO Anthony Di Pietro to honour the achievement. Photo: ANITA MILAS



Archie Thompson commemorates his milestone with a trademark finish and celebration to boot! Photo: ANITA MILAS



SFC and Victory file onto AAMI Park in preparation for the Big Blue Derby. PHOTO: ANITA MILAS



Who needs advertising when you've got Wanderers fans who can turn Parramatta Stadium terraces into a sea of black and red. PHOTO: ALI ERHAN



Celtic-bound Tom Rogic says so long and thanks for the Merry Mariners Memories. Photo: KAREN DOUGLAS



Newcastle's James Brown skewes his free-kick as the ball goes off in search of a GPS signal. Photo: PETER McDONALD



Western Sydney fans give their scarves decent work-out and it isn't even winter yet. Photo: ALI ERHAN





### Roar Line Up

1. Michael Theo (GK)
  3. Shane Stefanutto (capt)
  4. Matt Jurman
  5. Ivan Franjic
  7. Besart Berisha
  8. Massimo Muroccca
  9. Stef Nijland
  11. Ben Halloran
  12. Julius Doe
  13. Jade North
  14. Steven Lustica
  17. Mitch Nichols
  18. Luke Brattan
  19. Jack Hingert
  20. Matt Acton (gk)
  21. James Meyer
  22. Thomas Broich
  26. Corey Brown.
- (Three to be omitted)

Ins: 3. Shane Stefanutto (returns from suspension), 7. Besart Berisha (returns from suspension), 9. Stef Nijland (loan signing from PSV Eindhoven), 13. Jade North (promoted)

Outs: 15. James Donachie (omitted)

Unavailable: Matt Smith (hip injury – 2 weeks), Henrique (groin injury – 2-3 weeks)

## Brisbane Roar v Central Coast Mariners Fri Feb 01 Suncorp Stadium 8:00pm

By Jarrod Ellis

This Friday Brisbane Roar will once again play host to Central Coast Mariners, one of the more intriguing rivalries in the A-League.

Brisbane has traditionally had it over their Central Coast rivals, the Mariners having only managed to come away with a victory five times in twenty-nine encounters. One of those victories came in their previous encounter, a 2-1 win to the Mariners in Gosford back in November and despite the history books it's the Mariners that will enter the match as favourites.

Central Coast has been undoubtedly the A-League's most impressive side this season and it's no coincidence that they currently sit five points clear at the top of the table.

Friday's match will be the first encounter between these two sides post-Rogic, but Central Coast have shown over recent weeks that they're no one-man team. A comprehensive 3-1 defeat of Adelaide United last weekend only served to highlight that fact as Rogic watched on from the bench.

Bernie Ibini made his return to the side in that match and manager Graham Arnold was understandably delighted to be informed that the young striker will be returning to the club despite his trial with Club Brugge.

One of the more interesting subplots for the match unfortunately



### The Odds

Roar 2.70  
Draw 3.50  
Mariners 2.63

Join the conversation on Twitter using the hash-tag #ROARvCCM

Referee: Lucien Laverdure

## Post Rogic, Will Brisbane Roar?

ABC Radio Coverage – Updates only

won't eventuate with Nick Fitzgerald to be withheld from the Mariners team due to a "gentleman's agreement" with Brisbane.

The absence of Fitzgerald will be tempered by the return of defender Trent Sainsbury from suspension and former Socceroos attacker Mile Sterjovski, who was rested last week.

Brisbane will themselves be boosted by the return from suspension of Besart Berisha and Shane Stefanutto, both absent from the 1-0 win over Perth Glory last weekend.

At this point in time it's unknown if Brisbane's new recruit, Dutchman Stef Nijland will make an appearance on the pitch. Signed

from PSV Eindhoven the 24-year-old attacker is on a four-month deal, with talks reportedly already under way about making the move permanent.

Nijland is expected to link with Berisha up front for the Roar, no doubt in the hope that the pairing will provide the team with two genuine goalscoring threats, a situation that the team has lacked since the days of Juan Carlos Solorzano and Kosta Barbarouses.

For what seems like the umpteenth week in succession this match is viewed as an important one for Brisbane in their chase for a finals spot. On this occasion though a win could see them re-

turn to the top six.

Given their history against the Mariners Brisbane's players and fans will fancy their chances. However Central Coast has shown their quality this season and if the Mariners can keep their minds on the job at hand it's difficult to see the Roar securing the three-points.

In news related to off-field matters, Brisbane Roar are set to donate all profits from general ticket sales to this Friday's game against Central Coast Mariners to the Red Cross Queensland Floods Appeal 2013.

**Kiss of Death  
Roar 1-1 Mariners**



### Mariners Line Up

1. Mathew Ryan
  2. Daniel McBreen
  3. Joshua Rose
  5. Zachary Anderson
  6. Patrick Zwaanswijk
  7. John Hutchinson
  9. Bernie Ibini
  11. Oliver Bozanic
  13. Brent Griffiths
  14. Michael McGlinchey
  15. Brad McDonald
  16. Trent Sainsbury
  17. Anthony Caceres
  19. Mitchell Duke
  20. Justin Pasfield (Gk)
  21. Mile Sterjovski
- (One to be omitted)

Ins: 15. Brad McDonald (Promoted), 16. Trent Sainsbury (Returns from injury), 17. Anthony Caceres, 21. Mile Sterjovski (Both promoted)

Outs: 4. Pedj Bojic (Hip Flexor – 1 week), 18. Nick Montgomery (Suspended – 1 week), 29. Nick Fitzgerald (Gentleman's Agreement – 1 week)

Unavailable: 4. Pedj Bojic (Hip Flexor – 1 week), 18. Nick Montgomery (Suspended – 1 week), 22. James Oates (Ankle – 4 weeks), 23. Adam Kwasnik (Knee – Season), 29. Nick Fitzgerald (Gentleman's Agreement – 1 week)



### Phoenix Line Up

1. Mark Paston (GK)
2. Manny Muscat
6. Alex Smith
7. Leo Bertos
8. Paul Ifill
9. Benjamin Totori
10. Stein Huysegems
11. Jeremy Brockie
12. Tyler Boyd
14. Ian Hogg
16. Louis Fenton
18. Ben Sigmund
20. Glen Moss (GK)
21. Dani Sanchez
22. Andrew Durante (C).

Ins: Nil

Outs: Tony Lochhead (suspended)

Unavailable: Nil

## Wellington Phoenix v Perth Glory

By Joe Gallagher

The organisers of Auckland's A-League football match this season might have hoped for a more marketable match at Eden Park this year.

But while the game may be lacking in glamour, fans can be assured passion, as two of the competition's strugglers meet in a dogfight on Saturday evening.

Perth Glory make the arduous trip across the continent to New Zealand to take on Wellington Phoenix, but it will be an unfamiliar location for both sides.

As two of the six teams fighting for the final two play-off spots, three points is an absolute must for either side to re-ignite what has been a stuttering campaign.

Perth have lost three straight and have not won in five, while the Phoenix's record in 2013 consists of four losses, one draw, and not a single win.

They might hope a change of scenery is exactly what the team needs, given that they have only won in their Wellington home three times this season.

But it will take an enormous marketing effort to attract a crowd to watch a side that have been plagued by ill-discipline, defensive frailties and an ongoing tussle with its ownership in recent weeks.

Ricki Herbert could at least argue his team is on the way up – halting a run of four losses in Sunday's draw with Newcastle Jets – but in truth the side could barely have



### The Odds

Phoenix 2.30  
Draw 3.50  
Glory 3.15

Referee: Adam Kersey

Join the conversation on Twitter using the hash-tag #NIXvPG

## Change Of Scenery For A-League Strugglers

ABC Radio Coverage – Grandstand Online

sunk any lower than the demoralising 7-1 loss at the Sydney Football Stadium just a fortnight ago.

He will be without the services of Tony Lochhead, who was dismissed against the Jets, and is likely to hand an A-League debut to All White Ian Hogg. Vince Lia returns from suspension but will probably be kept at bay following a goalscoring performance by his replacement, youngster Louis Fenton.

Another under-fire coach, Ian Ferguson, has witnessed an extraordinary exodus recently. First Billy Mehmet left the club, closely followed by Jesse Makarounas. Now the Scot has been dealt the blow of defender Bas van den Brink's deci-

sion to depart for China.

He can at least take some comfort from the knowledge that former Wellington striker Shane Smeltz has no immediate plans to leave the side. However Smeltz, who missed Perth's loss to Brisbane on Saturday night, appears unlikely to make the trip to Auckland.

In even more bad news for Ferguson, captain Jacob Burns and experienced defender Dean Heffernan remain under an injury cloud.

Josh Risdon and Liam Miller, who sat out the visit of the Roar, return from suspension and will likely be immediately returned to the starting eleven.

There are few coaches in the

league under more pressure than Herbert and Ferguson, and the knowledge that one of these two sides will sit at the bottom of the ladder after the weekend's matches will provide added incentive to a match which is desperately in need of catching the public's attention.

The side's fortunes are a far cry from those of the two who played out a heart-stopping extra-time thriller deep into last season's play-offs.

How the teams – and Auckland's football public – could do with a similar show this weekend.

**Kiss of Death  
Wellington 1-0 Perth**



### Glory Line Up

1. Danny Vukovic (gk)
  2. Jack Clisby
  5. Steve Pantelidis
  6. Nick Ward
  8. Dean Heffernan
  10. Liam Miller
  11. Adrian Zahra
  12. Ryo Nagai
  13. Travis Dodd
  14. Steven McGarry
  15. Brandon O'Neill
  17. Chris Harold
  19. Josh Risdon
  21. Scott Jamison
  23. Michael Thwaite
  30. Lewis Italiano (gk)
- (One to be omitted)

Ins: 8. Dean Heffernan (returns from injury), 10. Liam Miller, 19. Josh Risdon (both return from suspension)

Outs: 24. Storm Roux

Unavailable: 7. Jacob Burns (back – 1 week), 9. Shane Smeltz (hip – 1 week)



# Target 5000



\*Terms and Conditions apply

Become a Mariners Member today and you could score yourself a Lifetime Membership!\*

Show your support for the Central Coast Mariners and help us reach 5,000 Members!

**SIGN UP NOW!**

**ONLINE:** ccmariners-memberships.com.au

**PHONE:** 4353 7200

**PART PAYMENTS**  
also available





Jets Line Up

1. Ben Kennedy (gk)  
2. Scott Neville  
3. Zenon Caravella  
4. Josh Mitchell  
5. James Brown  
6. Ruben Zadkovich  
7. Emile Heskey  
8. Connor Chapman  
9. Josh Brillante  
10. Taylor Regan  
11. Craig Goodwin  
12. James Virgili  
13. Jacob Pepper  
14. Michael Bridges  
15. Mark Birighitti (gk)  
16. Adam Taggart  
17. Ryan Griffiths  
18. Mitch Cooper  
19. Andrew Hoole.

Ins: 4. Josh Mitchell (returns from suspension), 8. Ruben Zadkovich (returns from suspension), 26. Andrew Hoole, 18. Jacob Pepper, 19. Michael Bridges, 25. Mitch Cooper (all elevated).

Outs: Sam Gallaway (suspended), Jobe Wheelhouse (Released)

Unavailable: Ben Kantarovski (knee), Dominik Ritter (ham-string).

Newcastle Jets v Sydney FC

By Shaun Dyas

The Newcastle Jets face Sydney FC in this round of A-league matches, but all anybody is talking about is the return of one man, Joel Griffiths. The former golden boy returns for his first competitive fixture since his transfer to Beijing. The only unfortunate thing for the fans is that he is returning for Sydney FC, not Newcastle. Griffiths is well known in the Hunter for being the main man in the Jets title winning season of the A-League, scoring goals at will as he took out the Johnny Warren medal on the way to the championship. Adding more intrigue to the contest is the fact that fellow title winner with the Jets that season, his brother Adam, also plays for Sydney FC, while their brother Ryan has been an integral member of the Jets side for the past couple of seasons. While it will be great for the three brothers to resume competitive action on the field, there is still the important factor of 3 points to be fought for between the sides. The ladder is as tight as ever in the push for the final 2 play-off positions and with a victory in this game Sydney can overtake the Jets and claim a place in the top 6. The sky blues will look to the influence of their marquee man Alessandro Del Piero to unlock the Jets improving defence.

ABC Radio Coverage – 1233 Newcastle, Grandstand Digital Sydney & online



Join the conversation on Twitter using the hash-tag #JETSvSYD

Del Piero has really hit his stride in the past couple of weeks and he now has the pace and ability to get in behind defences of Griffiths, meaning that Sydney are now a much bigger threat in attack. It will be interesting to see how they match up against a much improved Jets rearguard. The Jets had gone over 350 minutes without conceding a goal until Louis Fenton scored for Wellington last weekend. The performance of the Jets backline in recent weeks, namely Taylor Regan and Connor Chapman has been instrumental in the Jets not having lost in the past 4

Sat Feb 02 Hunter Stadium 5:30pm

Referee Jarred Gillett

Golden Boy Returns in Sky Blue

The Odds

Jets 2.10  
Draw 3.60  
SFC 3.40

Kiss of Death  
Jets 2-1 SFC

rounds. Another valuable inclusion will be the return of inspirational midfielder Ruben Zadkovich. He has been in phenomenal form this season, showing new found maturity to go along with his all action game. He is reportedly close to re-signing with the club which will give the Jets a further boost as they look to make the finals and have an impact if they get there. Along with Josh Brillante they have been able to block the passing lanes of opposition sides and this may be crucial on the weekend.

Sydney have been disrupted in defence for much of the season and if the midfield duo for the home side can stop the forward thrusts of the sky blues then they should have enough quality in their front third to score. If the Jets manage to win on the weekend they will chalk up a hat-trick of victories over the sky blues this season. It appears the most likely result.



Sydney FC Line Up

1. Ivan Necevski (gk)  
2. Sebastian Ryall  
3. Nathan Sherlock  
4. Jason Culina  
5. Adam Griffiths  
6. Paul Reid  
7. Alessandro Del Piero  
8. Blake Powell  
9. Terry McFlynn  
10. Joel Chianese  
11. Terry Antonis  
12. Trent McClenahan  
13. Vedran Janjetovic (gk)  
14. Ali Abbas  
15. Rhyan Grant  
16. Peter Triantis  
17. Aaron Calver  
18. Joel Griffiths  
19. (Three to be omitted)

Ins: 9. Paul Reid (promoted), 17. Terry Antonis (promoted), 1. Ivan Necevski (returns from injury), 28. Aaron Calver (promoted), 8. Adam Griffiths (returns from injury), 26. Peter Triantis (promoted), 5. Nathan Sherlock (promoted), 16. Joel Chianese (returns from injury)

Outs: Matthew Nash (end of short term injury replacement contract) Fabio (suspended, 1 week), Tiago Calvano (suspended, 1 week)

Unavailable: Yairo Yau (international duty, 1 week), Pascal Bosschaart (heel, season), Kruno Lovrek (knee, 8 weeks), Brett Emerton (back, 1 week)



Victory Line Up

1. Tando Velaphi (GK)  
2. Matthew Foschini  
3. Adama Traore  
4. Mark Milligan  
5. Leigh Broxham  
6. Jonathan Bru  
7. Marcos Flores  
8. Archie Thompson  
9. Marco Rojas  
10. Billy Celeski  
11. Francesco Stella  
12. Jesse Makarounas  
13. Adrian Leijer  
14. Nick Ansell  
15. Andrew Nabbout  
16. Scott Galloway  
17. Nathan Coe (GK)  
18. (Two to be omitted)

Ins: 2. Matthew Foschini, 22. Jesse Makarounas, 31. Scott Galloway (all promoted)

Outs: 13. Diogo Ferreira (suspended), 25. Luke O'DEA (injured)

Unavailable: 7. Gui Finkler (knee)

Melbourne Victory v Melbourne Heart

By Andrew Bishara

It was funny; the ‘Big Blue’ derby was a sell-out with the audience keen to sell Italian superstar Del Piero, but they left talking about Marco Rojas. Liverpool and Juventus talent scouts were in town to take in the ‘Kiwi Messi’ with Ange Postecoglou admitting that his performance was up there. “Yeah, he was really good tonight,” a satisfied Postecoglou said. “There’s obviously a lot of pressure on him, when you talk to Marco, he’s not fazed by anything” Rojas has been Victory’s best player this season and that has meant his future has been up in the air, will all signs pointing to his departure. That’s biggest concern surrounding the Victory now: will the Melbourne club sell him now for a price or will they let him leave for free at the end of the season? Both outcomes aren’t good for the Victory, but given their current state (second favourites for the title, you can say) it would best if they keep him, as he’s one their match winners. And come the season’s end, his departure won’t be as badly felt, with time to get replacements. Across the town, the Heart has had an early departure than planned. Vince Grella, has announced his retirement after picking up an injury in his first and only game for

ABC Radio Coverage – 774 & ABC Local Radio Victoria, Grandstand Digital Melbourne & online



Join the conversation on Twitter using the hash-tag #MelbDerby

the club over the Australia Day weekend. This is blow for the Heart, as they looked to him as someone who could lead them on the pitch with his experience – which is something the Heart definitely need during the final run. Heart boss, John Aloisi lavished praise on the “brilliant contributor”. “He deserved an opportunity to see if he could resurrect his career and we are proud that we were able to give him that chance. We always knew it was going to be a risk, but for me, it was certainly a risk worth taking.” With Heart’s away form being

Sat Feb 02 Etihad Stadium 7:45pm

The Odds

Victory 1.70  
Draw 4.00  
Heart 5.00

Kiss of Death  
Victory 2-1Heart

dreadful, Aloisi is hoping that being back at home will spark his side. “We’ve got to look forward because we’ve got the derby and the good thing about that is, in Melbourne, we seem to perform well,” Aloisi said. Which makes this last Melbourne derby of the season an important and hot contest. Why? Simple, there are only nine rounds of the season; its crunch time, with both Melbournians teams needing the points. Postecoglou’s boys are now in the hunt for a top two finish and with Adelaide’s drop off form (and John Kosmina’s resignation), there is a

very good chance for success. As for Aloisi’s men, they have a tough challenge, hanging on the finals place by a point. Their irregular form has cost them lately, after a decent run of victories late/early in the year. What better match to recapture their form? And that could be difference, with Victory in a winning run; Heart struggling to put some consistent (and decent performances) its looks like another victory for the blue side of Melbourne, but only just.



Heart Line Up

1. Clint Bolton (Gk)  
2. Cameron Edwards  
3. Patrick Gerhardt  
4. Matthew Thompson  
5. Josip Tadic  
6. Richard Garcia  
7. Jonatan Germano  
8. Golgol Mebrahtu  
9. David Williams  
10. David Vrankovic  
11. Ben Garuccio  
12. Andrew Redmayne (GK)  
13. Nick Kalmar  
14. Sam Mitchinson  
15. Jeremy Walker  
16. Ersin Kaya  
17. Stefan Mauk  
18. Eli Babalj  
19. (Three to be omitted)

Ins: 3. Cameron Edwards, 14. Golgol Mebrahtu, 19. Ben Garuccio, 24. Sam Mitchinson, 26. Ersin Kaya, 27. Stefan Mauk

Outs: 17. Jason Hoffman (suspended – five cautions), 31. Vince Grella (retired)

Unavailable: 4. Simon Colosimo (calf – two weeks), 5. Fred (quad strain – two weeks), 9. Dylan Macallister (adductor – two weeks), 23. Mate Dugandzic (broken foot – season)



BLOCKBUSTER 4 GAME PACK!

Final 4 Home Games of Regular Season

ADULT PACKS FROM \$90  
INC FREE PUBLIC TRANSPORT + MORE

www.sydneyfc.com/membership

FREE PUBLIC TRANSPORT INCLUDED IN BLOCKBUSTER 4 GAME PACK







### Adelaide Utd Line Up

- Eugene Galekovic (gk) (c)
- Nigel Boogaard
- Jon McKain
- Iain Fyfe
- Cassio
- Marcelo Carrusca
- Dario Vidosic
- Bruce Djite
- Antony Golec
- Cameron Watson
- Daniel Bowles
- Iain Ramsay
- Fabian Barbiero
- Jake Barker-Daish
- Paul Izzo (gk)
- Evan Kostopoulos (one to be omitted)

Ins: 5. Iain Fyfe (promoted), 11. Bruce Djite (returns from injury)

Outs: 21. Jeronimo Neumann (suspended – 1 match)

Unavailable: Fabio Ferreira (groin – 3 weeks)

## Adelaide Utd v W Sydney Wanderers

Sun Feb 03 Hindmarsh Stadium 5:00pm

By Luca Cetta

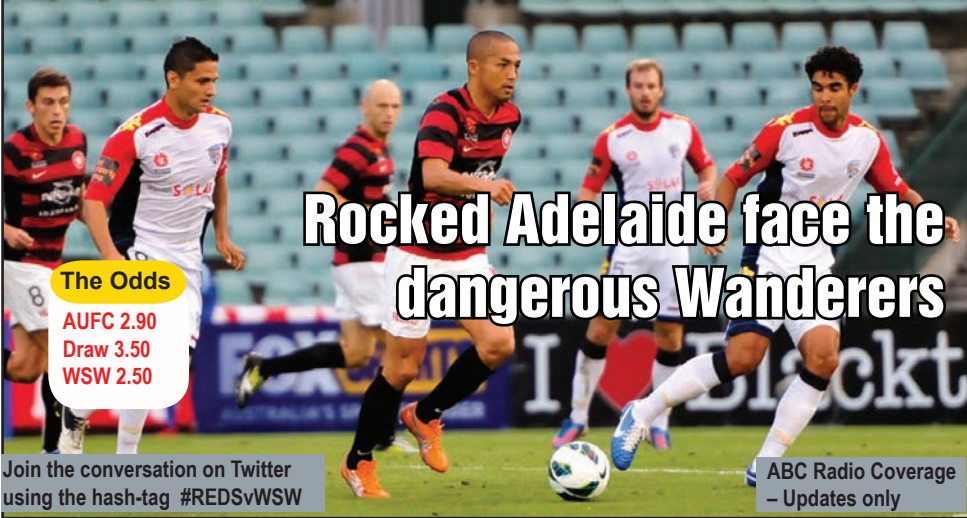
Adelaide United were shocked by the news John Kosmina resigned from his post as Coach with immediate effect. They must bounce back at Hindmarsh Stadium when they face in-form Western Sydney Wanderers.

Adelaide looked out of sorts last weekend, convincingly going down in the top of the table clash against Central Coast Mariners. Despite taking the lead through Dario Vidosic, the Reds looked second best and were eventually pegged back. Mitchell Duke scored a brace, before Michael McGlinchey netted the sealer for the Mariners with two minutes remaining.

“There’s a reason they’re top and we’re not,” said Kosmina, after what would prove to be his final match in charge. “Having said that we turned the ball over way too cheaply in the first half. We defended with desperation, Eugene made a couple of good stops but if you keep turning the ball over like that you’re going to build pressure on yourself and eventually you’re going to start to feel the pinch physically and mentally.”

While first spot has seemingly slipped from the grasp, the Reds remain well within Finals contention. However, they currently sit fourth – behind Melbourne Victory Western Sydney, their next two opponents. Should Adelaide fail to pick up maximum points from at least one clash, they will

Referee: Chris Beath



**The Odds**  
AUGC 2.90  
Draw 3.50  
WSW 2.50

Join the conversation on Twitter using the hash-tag #REDSvWSW

ABC Radio Coverage – Updates only

see their chances of hosting a final dissipate.

Kosmina resigned on the weekend and interim boss Michael Valkanis is looking for squad unity following a difficult period. He has an issue in attack given Bruce Djite is injured and Jeronimo Neumann suspended. Marcelo Carrusca could feature from the start after shaking off an injury problem.

Western Sydney made it seven wins from their past nine matches with a slender single goal victory over Melbourne Heart on Saturday. Playing with 10 men for more than 70 minutes after Jermo Polenz’s early dismissal, the Wander-

ers displayed steely determination to earn the three points. Shinji Ono converted a penalty with 17 minutes remaining.

Defender Nikolai Topor-Stanley says the win signified the Wanderers mental strength. “It was tough work,” he noted. “It was not ideal having a man sent off in the early stages in the match but the boys showed we were more than up for the game with a great performance and a gutsy win.”

The Wanderers have fond memories of their last meeting with Adelaide United, as they thumped the Reds 6-1 in a pre-Christmas blitz. However, their first trip to South

Australia ended in a 1-0 defeat. Wanderers recent away form has been impressive, with two successive wins on their travels.

Tony Popovic is without the suspended Polenz, while Aaron Mooy could return to the starting line-up after being benched for tactical reasons last weekend.

Valkanis will be seeking to put a difficult week aside and spur the Reds to victory, but given their concerns in attack and the Wanderers form, it will be a tough match for the home side.

**Kiss of Death**  
AUGC 1-1 Wanderers



### Wanderers Line Up

- Ante Covic (GK)
- Shannon Cole
- Adam D’Apuzzo
- Nikolai Topor-Stanley
- Michael Beauchamp
- Labinot Haliti
- Mateo Poljak
- Dino Kresinger
- Aaron Mooy
- Tarek Elrich
- Joey Gibbs
- Kwabena Appiah-Kubi
- Reece Caira
- Rocky Visconte
- Youssef Hersi
- Lacopo La Rocca
- Mark Bridge
- Jerrad Tyson (GK)
- Shinji Ono
- Jason Trifiro
- (Five to be omitted)

Ins: 2. Shannon Cole, 15. Reece Caira, 11. Tarek Elrich, 13. Joey Gibbs, 23. Jason Trifiro, 16. Rocky Visconte (all promoted)

Outs: 6. Jerome Polenz (suspended one match)

Unavailable: 12. Tahj Minniecon (foot indefinite)

# Knee injury ends Kwasnik’s campaign



Central Coast Mariners striker Adam Kwasnik has been ruled out for the rest of the A-League season with a knee injury sustained last week.

With attacking midfielder Tom Rogic having left the Mariners for Celtic earlier this month, Kwasnik’s injury further weakens Graham Arnold’s options in the forward third of the pitch.

In a statement released on Thursday, Central Coast have confirmed Kwasnik will have surgery on Monday.

Kwasnik did not play this season until New Year’s Eve when he started in Central Coast’s 1-0 win over Perth Glory as Arnold looked for a way to cover Rogic’s absence, who was out through suspension.

That appearance was the first of four in a row for the 29-year-old striker thanks to Rogic’s ban and subsequent transfer to Celtic.

Rogic’s departure looked to have opened the door for Kwasnik to cement a position with the A-League leaders heading into the finals but having hurt his knee last week, an MRI scan prompted the Mariners veteran and Central Coast to decide on surgery as the best option.

Kwasnik has played 148 A-League matches with Central Coast and Wellington Phoenix, scoring 36 goals.



**Zadkovich: Del Piero can look after himself**  
Ruben Zadkovich has dismissed claims by Sydney FC’s Terry McFlynn

that Alessandro Del Piero should be given more protection by referees.

Earlier this week McFlynn said creative players like Del Piero and Melbourne’s Marco Rojas were in danger of ending up injured because of persistent fouling and that it was up to referees to give them more protection.

But Newcastle Jets’ midfielder Zadkovich - speaking ahead of the teams’ Round 19 clash at Hunter Stadium on Saturday - dismissed McFlynn’s suggestion.

“I don’t see why anyone deserves protection,” Zadkovich countered when asked for his reaction to McFlynn’s comments on Wednesday. “He (Del Piero) has been good enough to score goals in the best competitions in the world and he has played at the international level and done the same thing. I am pretty sure he can handle himself.

“I don’t see why the referees should be protecting him anymore than they should be protecting James Virgili (Jets winger).

“Terry McFlynn is a player who loves to get stuck in so it is a little bit ironic hearing those comments



coming from him.

“But he is a good gamesman and he knows how to win matches and get the media hype on his side, so I am sure that is just a little bit of match play from him.”

Zadkovich, who was suspended from Newcastle’s 1-1 draw with the Phoenix last weekend after picking up his fifth yellow card of the season, will be charged with the task of marking the Italian maestro this weekend.

But he denies he will try to foul him out of the game.

“It will just be another game for me,” Zadkovich said.

“Obviously Del Piero is one in a million, he’s a class player and definitely someone we’ve got to be wary of.

“When I was a kid I used to watch him on telly and now I am playing on the same pitch as him - it is a great experience but I won’t be star struck when the whistle goes

I can tell you that for sure.”

The Jets midfielder did say it was imperative to restrict Del Piero’s time on the ball, and is also wary of Jason Culina and former Jets striker Joel Griffiths, who will be playing against his old side for the first time in an A-League clash.

“When you have one good player like Del Piero he can cause you trouble but when they stick another good player like Culina in there it becomes a lot harder,” Zadkovich said.

“Joel is a smart player - he knows when to make his run. He has scored a bundle of goals at this ground and he’ll be looking to prove a point

“So it will be about not giving Del Piero too much time on the ball and the boys always being aware of where Joel is.

“Shutting down those two threats will probably go a long way towards winning the game.”

Hot

The Big Blue was a runaway success at AAMI Park on Australia Day, and the Victory must now back up in the crosstown derby against the red&white half of Melbourne town at Etihad Stadium! The Western Sydney Wanderers’ fairytale debut season keeps going from strength to strength, to the point that their making a serious title assault isn’t a farfetched proposition at all...on the national-team

front, the recent move of Aziz Behich to Turkey’s Bursaspor should be good for him, as hopefully will Mile Jedinak’s mooted switch to Stoke City should it eventuate. Certainly Holger Osieck will run the rule over the European-based contingent in the lead-up to Australia’s friendly against Romania, so clearly now is the time for them to impress him with good club performances.

Not

Kossie, God love him, has always been a maverick and oft-divisive rascal of sorts within Oz football circles for as long as he’s been involved with the game, first as

a player in the ‘80s and ever since as an NSL/A-League coach...but the recent sham-bolism over at Adelaide United can be said to throw up as many questions about his professional integrity as it does about the board he has such a bugbear with. No doubt some will point to the fact the AUFC hierarchy is exclusively-made up of ‘non-football’ people and thus in itself anathema to John Kosmina’s MO but given the fact a strong and stable Adelaide United is certainly imperative to the A-League’s ongoing growth and success, here’s hoping that one way or another the club can move on successfully from this turn of events... whereas for his part, it surely won’t be too long before John Kosmina is again a figure of note within the A-League’s coaching fraternity. - Alvaro Rodriguez



### Hyundai Goal for Grassroots

Congratulations to Ashburton Womens Soccer Club for being selected as the Goals For Grassroots junior club for Round 18. By virtue of Melbourne Victory scoring 3 goals this round, the club received a \$4000 grant courtesy of Hyundai. To nominate your club visit [www.goalsforgrassroots.com.au](http://www.goalsforgrassroots.com.au)

Kaka Shirt

Samuel Shirt

Claudio Shirt

Castelo Shorts

2 PIECE PLAYING SETS ONLY \$25

HIGH QUALITY - QUICK DRYING - BREATHABLE PLAYING KITS - MULTIPLE COLOUR COMBINATIONS AVAILABLE

15 PLAYING SETS ONLY \$375

SHIRTS + SHORTS

FULLY CUSTOMISED KITS DELIVERED DIRECT TO YOUR DOOR - READY FOR PLAY.

CALL US TODAY 1800 730 739

peladà

pelada.com.au

GREAT DEALS ON FOOTBALL ACCESSORIES





PHOTO & GRAPHICS: ANITA MILAS



## The PFA Column



Simon Colosimo

### Saluting A Living Legend

Following the retirement of long-term friend, teammate and colleague Vincenzo Grella from professional football, PFA President Simon Colosimo takes a time-out to reflect upon Vincenzo's fantastic career and contribution to Australian football.

On 16 November 2005, immediately after Australia qualified for the 2006 World Cup, Vincenzo made a statement about what it meant to him to overcome Uruguay and have the opportunity to represent his country at the biggest stage of all, the FIFA World Cup.

"My first dream as a young player was to play in the world cup for my country, and my second was to play in Italy. I am a very lucky person. I'll make sure that I honour the shirt in every game that I play".

And every time Vincenzo put the shirt on for his country, he did just that.

Looking back at the days of getting a train straight from school to training in Richmond while on scholarship at the VIS, to waking up for morning gym sessions at 6am so we could fit in our high school commitments whilst at the AIS, Vincenzo has always been the player that will go beyond what is required to succeed, and succeed he did:



From Springvale to superstardom: Vince Grella in action for the Socceroos against Italy at the 2006 World Cup Finals in Germany.

#### National Team Appearances:

Australia (U20) - 11  
Australia (U23 Olyroos) - 17  
Australia (Socceroos) - 46

#### Club Career Appearances:

95-96: Springvale City - 16  
96-97: Canberra Cosmos - 14 (1 goal)  
97-98: Carlton - 23 (1 goal)  
98-04: Empoli - 60 (1 goal);  
99-01 Ternana (loan)  
04-07: Parma - 92 (2 goals)  
07-08: Torino - 28 (1 goal)  
08-12: Blackburn Rovers - 38  
12-13: Melbourne Heart - 1

Vincenzo commanded respect. Whether it be from his AIS teammates or those from some of the biggest clubs in the world. This was not only because of his work rate and what he produced as a footballer on the field, it was evident in the changing rooms, press areas, in PFA Executive meetings and best of all over a coffee (or glass of Italian Vino), where his 'Say it as it is attitude' was always delivered and received with respect.

Even over the last few months that Vincenzo has spent at Melbourne Heart you could still see all that determination in every

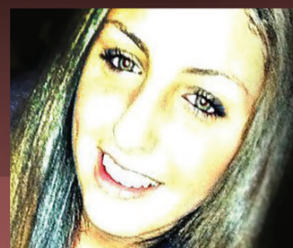
session that he did. He has kept that passion and desire to give his all in every training session or game throughout his wonderfully successful career.

Vincenzo has a strong desire to help young Aussie footballers transition and succeed in the best leagues in Europe. His passion to help 'the little guy' says a lot for the kind of person he is. Having said that, he will not be the one blowing smoke up any young player's backside, Vince will not shy away from telling a young player how it is, and this why so much can be learned from him.

Vince may no longer have his boots on, but his passion for the game and to help young players fulfill their dreams will continue. The way he has contributed and conducted himself as part of the PFA Executive has been invaluable, and is testament to the way Vincenzo commits himself to everything he puts his mind to.

The PFA's core values are COURAGE, WORLD CLASS, INTELLIGENCE, TRUST & RESPECT. These are the words that describe Vincenzo, not only as a footballer but most importantly as a person.

Cairnlea FC presents



## 2013 SHENIZ ERKAN CUP

The yearly Sheniz Erkan Cup is always an opportunity for all to remember such a young and beautiful life taken too soon. Sheniz was an extremely talented footballer, an inspiring young girl who will be forever in our hearts.

Join us in the 2013 Sheniz Erkan Cup

#### DATES:

Group Stage, Day 1: Saturday, 9 March 2013

Group Stage, Day 2: Sunday, 10 March 2013

Group Stage, Day 3: Saturday, 16 March 2013

Group Stage, Day 4: Sunday, 17 March 2013

Semi Finals Day: Saturday, 23 March 2013

Cup Grand Final Day: Sunday, 24 March 2013



Under 8 to 18s - Boys

Under 14, 16 & 18s - Girls

### Kick a goal for SHENIZ

TO REGISTER OR BE INVOLVED

CALL 0412 225 775 OR EMAIL YADAL@ADCOM.COM.AU

All games to be played at Cairnlea Park  
Kevin Flint Reserve, Furlong Road, Cairnlea.



## Nut-Meg Dept.

### Boo's World

SUMMER SERIES



By Mark Boric

It wasn't just a big week, it was a huge week in football. Treachery, tragedy and plenty of other stuff as well.

Drama aplenty in Pissant Town as John Kosmina resigned as coach of Adelaide United. Kossie wasn't feeling the love as he sought to sign a new contract. Adelaide's owners were a bit wary of handing out contracts after the expensive Rini Coolen debacle, so he walked after feeling the lack of faith the board seemed to have in him going forward. Amongst this would be a myriad of behind the scenes issues that have yet to

come to the surface, but you don't win a set of steak knives for figuring out what they could involve.

Sadly, the comeback of Vince Grella was to prove all too brief. He announced his retirement a few days after his debut for Melbourne Heart, injuries curtailing the career of one of the great Socceroos. He didn't come back for the money, he did it to try and help a mate. It has not ended on the best of notes, but all true football fans should stand and salute a warrior on a magnificent career.

The transfer window exodus continues, with Perth's Bas van den Brink off to India and Heart's Socceroo Aziz Behich heading to Turkey. Do some of these clubs know there is still a Finals series to come?

Speaking of Finals, it was the Grand Final of the W-League on Sunday with Sydney FC emerging as Champions with a 3-1 defeat of Melbourne Victory. Didn't catch the presentation, so I'm not sure if the girls get a trophy similar to the toilet seat motif of the A-League one. If it is, it better be in the downward position. The diving header from Sam Kerr to put Sydney 2-1 up was a sensational



The view you didn't see on the ABC as over 4000 watched the W-League Grand Final. Photo: ANITA MILAS

highlight, the game being filmed from opposite the closed grandstand the lowlight.

Melbourne Heart will be fielding a Youth team in the FFV State League Division Two North West in the upcoming season. They will make it a thirteen team league, playing their fixtures midweek. There seems to have been little consultation with the clubs involved, who only learned of this development when the fixtures were released. The FFV rules regarding affiliation and

league placement must have been abandoned long ago, and it remains uncertain if all the clubs have lights capable of hosting their midweek game with Heart. Looks like little has changed.

The Big Blue (Victory v Sydney, not Geale v Mundine) was action aplenty. The Melbourne side was dominant, before a slight Sydney revival when the game was all but over. It was not quite a full house, as a few hundred of the overseas scouts to cast their eye over Marco Rojas missed their

flights. Alessandro Del Piero and Joel Griffiths did their best Kevin Muscat impressions, often double-teaming in their harrassment of the referee.

On Friday night, Central Coast were pretty impressive as they defeated Adelaide in what would prove to be Kossie's swansong. Tom Rogic waved goodbye to the fans before heading off to Celtic. The giant inflatable sauce bottles were conspicuous by their absence, perhaps removed with the approaching Superstorms

in mind, or maybe sold off to a Chinese Super League club. Maybe Tom wants to keep them as a souvenir.

Just after the FFA crackdown on flare use, the Wanderers went mental with a crazy amount of fireworks on Saturday night. It was said they were from a neighbouring Australia Day celebration, but I wouldn't be buying that excuse. There was a similar display at the Perth Glory v Brisbane Roar game, which outraged a few fans who were woken up by them after having fallen asleep during another dire game.

#### AGAINST ALL ODDS

A-League Dance Off Champion 2012/13

Central Coast Mariners	3.40
Melbourne Victory	3.75
West Sydney Wanderers	8.00
Adelaide United	13.0
Brisbane Roar	13.0
Newcastle Jets	17.0
Sydney FC	17.0
Melbourne Heart	26.0
Perth Glory	26.0
Wellington Phoenix	51.0

# GET CONNECTED TO MELBOURNE VICTORY!



facebook.com/gomvfc



twitter.com/gomvfc



youtube.com/gomvfc



melbournevictory.com.au





# Sydney FC Crowned Westfield W-League Champions

## Grand Final Review

By Roy Hay

Sydney FC won its second Westfield W-League Championship after defeating Melbourne Victory 3-1 in a dominant display at AAMI Park on Sunday.

In a high quality match of contrasting styles Sydney thoroughly deserved their win, the first time a team has come from fourth place after the home and away matches to win the championship. A crowd of 4181, dominated by Victory fans, was disappointed but kept up their support to the end and Danielle Johnson, the skipper described the occasion as 'great fun'. Not something you often hear from a losing captain.

Victory had a good early spell but then Sydney responded with quick breaks in succession as the home team's more measured build-up was often ended by a poor choice of pass or a turnover in a tackle.

Sydney got a goal their rapid approach play deserved after 26 minutes, but it was the result of a defensive error by Victory. Rebekah Stott was caught facing her own goal and gave a short pass back to keeper Brianna Davey, who was forced to play the ball first time with her feet and it cannoned off the onrushing Nicola Bolger and over the goal-line. There was nearly a carbon copy not long afterwards but this time Davey managed to scramble the ball away.

Victory's equaliser came in the 40th minute after Stephanie Catley was fouled about 35 metres out. Petra Larsson sent her free kick in off the post with keeper Shamiran Khamis unable to reach the ball despite a frantic dive across goal. It was the only time the Sydney custodian was beaten and she and young Davey put on brilliant displays, assisted by their respective defences. The first half ended at one-all but Sydney looked the more menacing side.

Three minutes after the break came one of the goals of the year so far when Kyah Simon sprinted down the right wing and sent a cross over the Victory defence towards the far post. Samantha Kerr threw herself at the ball and scored with a decisive diving header. Khamis denied Victory another equaliser with a point-blank save from Enza Barilla in 59 minutes. At the other end Davey was equally brilliant in tipping over a Simon shot in 66 minutes.

The game opened up as a players tired and showed clear signs of cramp. Sydney's Larissa Crummer had just come on as substitute, replacing Natalie Tobin when she sprinted on to a loose ball deep in the Victory half. Her speed carried her past Maika Ruyter-Hooley who brought her down, leaving referee Kate Jaciewicz no option but to issue a red card as well as the penalty kick. Simon blasted the ball home then tried to quieten the home support with her celebratory gesture. Needless to say it did not work, but it was a nice piece of theatre.

Kyah Simon won the player of the match award and joked afterwards that she was disappointed that she hadn't achieved the goal she set



Celebration time for the Sydney FC girls. Photo: JOHN PUNSHON

herself of scoring a hat-trick. She was more pleased with the team performance and the result. For Victory this proved one step too far, but showed that the team is improving year by year, despite the personnel changes which have disrupted the last part of the season. The team will have to add variety in attack and speed up its transitional play if it is to go to the next level and win the title next season. But all those who took part today can be proud of their efforts, skill and commitment. Among those enjoying the action was Matilda Sally Shiphard, who was itching to get out there to take part in the spectacle.



Sydney captain, Kyah Simon, is ecstatic after making it 3-1 from the spot to shut Victory out late in the game. Photo: JOHN PUNSHON



Sam Kerr begins the celebrations after scoring Sydney's second goal. Photo: JOHN PUNSHON (above) & ANITA MILAS (left).



It's the end of the game for Victory's Maika Ruyter-Hooley as referee Kate Jaciewicz shows her the red card. Photo: JOHN PUNSHON

## Grand Final Details

**Sydney FC 3** (Nicola Bolger 25, Sam Kerr 48, Kyah Simon 85)  
**Melbourne Victory 1** (Petra Larsson 41)  
AAMI Park  
Referee: Kate Jaciewicz  
Crowd: 4181

**Sydney FC:** 20. Sham Khamis, 2. Teresa Polias, 3. Elizabeth Ralston, 4. Sam Kerr, 7. Nicola Bolger (13. Larissa Crummer '80), 9. Caitlin Foord, 10. Renee Rollason, 11. Annalie Longo (18. Brittany Whitfield, '92) 12. Chloe Logarzo (6. Natalie Tobin '86), 14. Alanna Kennedy, 17. Kyah Simon.  
Subs Not Used: 8. Amy Harrison, 1. Sian McLaren (Gk).

**Melbourne Victory:** 1. Brianna Davey, 2. Danielle Johnson, 3. Maika Ruyter-Hooley, 4. Rebekah Stott, 5. Laura Spiranovic, 6. Petra Larsson, 7. Stephanie Catley, 10. Jessica McDonald (23. Jessica Humble '73), 14. Enza Barilla, 15. Amy Johnson, 17. Gulcan Koca.  
Subs Not Used: 9. Tiffany Eliadis, 11. Caitlin Friend, 18. Cindy Lay, 20. Cassandra Dimovski (Gk).  
Red Card: Maika Ruyter-Hooley 86.

## Semi-Finals Review

**Brisbane Roar 2**  
(Emily Gielnik 14', Vedrana Popovic 76')

**Sydney FC 3**  
(Annalie Longo 20', Samantha Kerr 30'/60')  
Saturday 19 January 2013

**Perth Glory 1**  
(Collette McCallum 56')

**Melbourne Victory 1**  
(Laura Spiranovic 52')  
(Melbourne win 4-3 on penalties)  
Sunday 20 January 2013

## W-League Standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
1 Brisbane Roar	12	8	2	2	28	15	13
2 Perth Glory	12	7	3	2	34	20	14
3 Melbourne Victory	12	7	2	3	26	14	12
4 Sydney FC	12	6	2	4	30	24	6
5 Canberra United	12	5	3	4	25	20	5
6 WS Wanderers	12	4	1	7	19	23	-4
7 Newcastle Jets	12	1	3	8	15	33	-18
8 Adelaide United	12	2	0	10	12	40	-28

**FUTSAL OZ**  
EST. 2006

**Football Team Wear**  
now available at **Futsal Oz**  
407 VICTORIA STREET, BRUNSWICK

Tel: 1300 768 799 | www.futsaloz.com.au | Join us on facebook



# Couch Potato



\* ALL TIMES ARE AEDT

**SBS**  
SBS ONE  
Sunday February 3rd  
10:30 am FIFA World Cup 2014 Magazine  
11:00 am FIFA Futbol Mundial

Monday February 4th  
4:30 pm FIFA Futbol Mundial  
11:00 pm The World Game

Thursday February 7th  
5:15 am Football International: Netherlands v Italy - **LIVE** from Amsterdam Arena, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

**SBS TWO**  
Monday February 4th  
9:30 pm The World Game

**one**

Tuesday 05th February 2013  
09:30 am Liverpool TV

Friday 08th February  
07:30 am Football: Liverpool TV

**SETANTA SPORTS**

**FRIDAY 1ST FEBRUARY**  
npower Championship Round 29  
Leicester v Wolves 6:40am **LIVE**  
SPL Round 25 Highlights Show  
8:45am 1st Airing  
Bundesliga Round 20 Preview Show  
7:30pm 1st Airing

**SATURDAY 2ND FEBRUARY**  
Bundesliga Round 20 Bremen v Hannover 6:25am **LIVE**  
Blue Square Premier Round 32 Ebbsfleet v Macclesfield 8:30am 1st Airing  
Copa Libertadores First Stage 2nd Leg Highlights Show 7:30pm 1st Airing  
Scottish Cup Round 5 Dundee United v Rangers 11:40pm **LIVE**

**SUNDAY 3RD FEBRUARY**  
npower Championship Round 29  
Leeds v Cardiff 1:55am **LIVE**  
Bundesliga Round 20 Hamburg v Frankfurt 4:25am **LIVE**  
Eredivisie Round 21 PSV v Den Haag 6:40am **LIVE**  
Bundesliga Round 20 Mainz v Bayern Munich 8:45am 1st Airing  
npower League One Round 32 Crawley v Swindon 10:35am 1st Airing  
Scottish Cup Round 5 Raith v Celtic 11:40pm **LIVE**

**MONDAY 4TH FEBRUARY**  
Scottish Cup Round 5 Hibernian v Aberdeen 2:25am **LIVE**  
Bundesliga Round 20 Leverkusen v Dortmund 4:25am 1st Airing  
Eredivisie Round 21 Twente v Utrecht 8:00am 1st Airing  
Eredivisie Round 21 VVV v Ajax 9:50am 1st Airing  
Bundesliga Round 20 Nuremberg v Monchengladbach 11:40am 1st Airing  
Bundesliga Round 20 Highlights Show 7:00pm 1st Airing

**TUESDAY 5TH FEBRUARY**  
npower League Two Round 32 Gillingham v Wycombe 6:40am **LIVE**  
npower Championship Round 29 Highlights Show 7:00pm 1st Airing  
Eredivisie Round 21 Highlights Show 7:30pm 1st Airing

**THURSDAY 7TH FEBRUARY**  
International Friendly England v Brazil 6:45am **LIVE**

**FRIDAY 8TH FEBRUARY**  
Bundesliga Round 21 Preview Show 7:00pm 1st Airing

**Hyundai A-League**  
All games **LIVE**

**FOX SPORTS FC**  
Every Tuesday 8.30 pm

**Fri Feb 1 Brisbane v Central Coast**  
8.00 pm Fox 1  
**Sat Feb 2 Wellington v Perth**  
3.00 pm Fox 1  
**Sat Feb 2 Newcastle v Sydney**  
5.30 pm Fox 1  
**Sat Feb 2 Melb Victory v Melb Heart**  
7.45 pm Fox 1  
**Sun Feb 3 Adelaide v Western Sydney**  
5.00 pm Fox 1

**WEEK 26**  
**Sat Feb 2 QPR v Norwich**  
11.38 pm Fox 1  
**Sun Feb 3 Newcastle v Chelsea**  
1.53 am Fox 1  
**Sun Feb 3 Arsenal v Stoke**  
1.53 am Viewers Choice  
**Sun Feb 3 Everton v Aston Villa**  
1.53 am Viewers Choice  
**Sun Feb 3 Reading v Sunderland**  
1.53 am Viewers Choice  
**Sun Feb 3 West Ham v Swansea**  
1.53 am Viewers Choice  
**Sun Feb 3 Wigan v Southampton**  
9.30 am DELAY (Fox 1)  
**Sun Feb 3 Fulham v Manchester Utd**  
4.23 am Fox 1  
**Mon Feb 4 West Brom v Tottenham**  
12.23 am Fox 1  
**Mon Feb 4 Man City v Liverpool**  
2.45 am Fox 1

**ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE LIVE**  
Times listed are 7 minutes prior to kick-offs.

**English Premier League**

# Round 19: ASK THE EXPERTS

THE VERDICT

Roar (1) Mariners (5) Draw (2) - Phoenix (5) Glory FC (2) Draw (1) - Jets (6) SFC (1) Draw (1) - Victory (8) Heart (0) Draw (0) - Adelaide (0) Wanderers (3) Draw (5)

**SANTO CILAURO** **41**

Roar  
Phoenix  
Jets  
Victory  
Draw

Last week: 3

**CRAIG MACKENZIE** **40**

Mariners  
Phoenix  
Jets  
Victory  
Wanderers

Last week: 3

**EDDIE KRNEVIC** **35**

Draw  
Phoenix  
Draw  
Victory  
Draw

Last week: 1

**PETER KATHOLOS** **35**

Mariners  
Draw  
Sydney  
Victory  
Draw

Last week: 3

**ROGER SLEEMAN** **46**

Mariners  
Perth  
Jets  
Victory  
Wanderers

Last week: 3

**ANDY HARPER** **36**

Mariners  
Wellington  
Newcastle  
Victory  
Draw

Last week: 2

**JOHN DOYLE** **37**

Mariners  
Perth  
Jets  
Victory  
Wanderers

Last week: 3

**KISS OF DEATH** **43**

Draw  
Phoenix  
Jets  
Victory  
Draw

Last week: 3

## Youthful Southern Stars Prepare To Shine

### VPL COUNTDOWN

BRANDON GALGANO takes an insider's view into the lives of the Victorian Premier League clubs as they prepare for the upcoming 2013 season.

**CLUB:** Southern Stars FC  
**VPL Titles:** Nil  
**Last Title:** Vic State League Division 2 2010  
**Head Coach:** Zaya Younan  
**Position Last Season:** 10th

To say its been a turbulent offseason for last seasons Victorian Premier League surprise package Southern Stars FC would be an understatement. Following the loss of almost the entire first team squad from a successful 2012 campaign, Southern Stars FC will look to youth in the upcoming 2013 season in the hopes of once again attaining VPL survival.

#### Pre- Season Update:

Following the conclusion of the 2012 season there have been a number of changes at the club with former coach Dean Hennessey and his backroom staff replaced by former Richmond assistant Zaya Younan as head coach for the 2013 season. This appointment has been followed up with the addition of former Dandenong Thunder assistant Gus Caminos who has been appointed as his deputy for the upcoming campaign.

After three weeks of Pre Season training, newly appointed first team head coach Zaya Younan is 'happy' with the status of his still very large squad which he hopes to 'trim down over the next few weeks'. With Yianni Galanos and Hailil Gur the only



Southern Stars will be hoping for a successful 2013 after consolidating in the VPL last season.

familiar faces still with the club from the 2012 season (the latter returning to the club following a short stint with state league one side Dandenong City) it is sure to be a new look Southern Stars outfit who will front up for their first match of the 2013 campaign against champions Dandenong Thunder in round one.

Following the losses of Alan Kearney moving on to South Melbourne FC, Liam McCormick and Luke Fitzpatrick to Bentleigh Greens along with 2012 Captain Alan Mulcahy moving on to Hume City as well as goal keeper Fraizer Siddall leaving the club just to name a few, it is abundantly clear that the 2013 campaign is going to be a tough one for a club who has relied on the signings of foreign players or 'visa signings' as many call them over recent seasons, a notion

which new coach Zaya Younan is determined to stamp out.

Younan, a former young Soceroos squad member in 1992 has clearly shown a preference for 'bleeding' younger players over the pre season break with the signings of a number of youngsters under the age of 23 from local lower division clubs such as the signing of former Kingston city midfielder Velivor Mitrovic who, at 21 years of age, will be looking to back up a solid 2012 campaign where he led City to an admirable 7th position in Victorian State League 2 S/E. Another astute signing made over the offseason is that of former Richmond striker Devon Bonne (21) as well as fellow young starlets Tommy Lino and Joshua Wood who are both currently 19 years of age.

With a number of new faces

at the club including a brand new coaching staff, and a squad list with an average age of around 21 years, it is fair to say that rather than aiming for the stars, SSFC will be looking to avoid the drop for a second successive season. With only a quarter of the budget of most of their VPL rivals it would be considered a major success for the club and its fans if new Coach Zaya Younan manages to secure Premier League football for the third successive season down at Kingston Heath Soccer Complex. Stay tuned for further Victorian Premier League updates at your only place for the latest news from our own backyard Goal! Weekly.

**Join The Revolution**  
**First Game Free!**  
Venues in Thomastown & Greensborough  
**Men's, Women & Mixed Competitions**  
www.facebook.com/DodgeballRevolution @Dodgeball\_Rev

**NO APOLOGIES**  
A FOOTBALL DOCO BY ASHLEY MORRISON  
Recently voted by FourFourTwo UK as one of the top 5 football documentaries to see before you die! Order your copy today online at:  
www.noapologiesrequired.com



# Lou sticks up for David Gallop



**MACCA AT LARGE**  
With Craig MacKenzie

**LOU Sticca thumbs his nose at suggestions that FFA is a competitor and plans to ga-zump him as he attempts to bring Liverpool to our shores in July.**

“No, that’s not the case,” said Sticca. “FFA is not a competitor.”

There have been unsourced media reports this week that FFA has been holding “secret talks” with the Anfield outfit to get it to take on an All-Stars select in Sydney.

These reports surfaced during ongoing and delicate negotiations facilitated by Sticca’s Tribal Sports Management to arrange a July MCG clash between Liverpool and Melbourne Victory.

“Obviously they’ll play in Melbourne or Sydney and at this stage it’s open to both opportunities,” said the TSM supremo.

“I’m reluctant to talk about this because we are dealing with governments and in terms of publicity you risk losing a game so it would be absolutely stupid of me to elaborate on this matter.

“I’m not being evasive but you must understand that at the end of the day we are dealing in significant commercial terms and while the matter is of great interest to the public confidentiality is the key.

“To talk about a deal before it’s done can leave a lot of people with egg on their face.”

Sticca speaks from years of experience.

During the A-League era he has played a significant role in bringing Dwight Yorke, Shinji Ono, Benito Carbone, Kazuyoshi “Kazu” Miura, Harry Kewell and Alessandro Del Piero to our shores among others.

The FIFA accredited player and match agent also has brought out David Beckham’s LA Galaxy for multiple tours of Australia and New Zealand and Scottish giant Celtic for two Australian tours.

“Our company’s involvement in the game is quite broad as we deal with players, clubs, sponsors and we do consulting work,” said Sticca.

“We’re currently in the process of opening an office in southern China. We’re a fully integrated sports management company and soccer is our main fare.”

And if you still need convincing that Tribal Sports and FFA are not at loggerheads sit back and read what Sticca thinks of the progress made this century in the national competition and in particular his opinion of new FFA CEO David Gallop.

“The game is at a very interesting stage of its development. For

obvious reasons FFA decided that the game had to prove that it was ready to move into Australia’s mainstream sports under the (Frank) Lowy-John O’Neill stewardship in the mid-2000s and when it took off it hasn’t looked back.

“Now we’ve got David Gallop there who I think is sensational in that he understands the marketplace in Australia better than most.

“He’s run a successful competition (the NRL) in very difficult circumstances and done an extremely good job.

“In my limited dealings with him he seems a person that is very approachable, very pragmatic and as an individual he’s the sort of person who’ll cut through a lot of the crap sporting bureaucracies face.

“I get the impression talking to people in NSW who have dealt with him previously that he’s a no-nonsense individual, which is exactly what the game needs.”

It’s easy to draw parallels between these two influential football operators for Sticca also is a no-nonsense individual.

Set him on the course of discussing the structure and future of A-League clubs and you won’t be disappointed.

“Single ownership of clubs in a country like Australia is very difficult to operate. It’s the multi-ownership model that we should look at and Melbourne Victory is the absolute model of what an Australian football club should look like.

“It comprises business leaders from all walks of life who represent many different aspects of multicultural Australia. They have people with business and football acumen, independent directors – it’s the perfect model.

“Victory’s ownership is spread between 60 or 70 different individuals but obviously six or seven people control 60 to 70 per cent of the club.

“It has never made a loss, bar year one, and this season no-one’s had to tip in additional funds to keep the club going as most other clubs have had to do.

“At Victory they’ve taken a very long-term view of building a successful and sustainable club both on and off the park.”

Sticca says Melbourne Heart is modelled along Victory lines but didn’t have the advantage of setting up first. Nor was it given the sort of geographical advantage afforded by FFA to Western Sydney Wanderers.

“I think once FFA sells Western Sydney they’ll look very closely at who they sell to as well as looking at the Victory model and I think



FFA CEO David Gallop – “sensational” says Lou Sticca.



Liverpool to tour Oz in July? We shall wait and see....

they’ll try and set up all the clubs like that.”

But that’s enough friendly advice for the power-brokers in Sydney for the time being as there is a more pressing matter at hand.

It involves one of the greatest clubs in the history of English football – and we’re not talking about Manchester United.

Expect the matter to be resolved this month and expect Sticca and TSM to play a pivotal role in its resolution.

**Fancy Footwork**  
**ARTUR Maliszewski is excited at the prospect of taking on the world.**

His company, Footwork Podiatric Laboratory, is Australia’s leading sports orthotics manufacturer and just a few years ago boasted six EPL clubs as clients.

But four years of development and moving away from being a high labour-intensive operation to a specialised high-tech system is now complete.

“It’s been a hard slog – a lot of heartache and a lot of stress – but pretty much over the last 12 months we’ve got our systems to a stage where we can really progress and take on the world,” said Maliszewski.

“The last four years have been about development but now that production is up and running smoothly we are getting what we always hoped to get out of the technology.

“We initially looked to the engineering industry and developed our own systems. For example, two of our machines cost \$400,000 each.

“You can buy a system off the shelf for around \$80,000 but comparing us to somebody else is like comparing a Mercedes to a Dae-woo.”

Maliszewski originally graduated as a podiatrist from LaTrobe university and as part of a podiatry course involves orthotics – developing devices to assist with movement – and because he enjoyed



Preston North End star Bailey Wright.

working with his hands he became a highly successful and specialised orthotics supplier.

He started working from a garage and developed his business through friends asking for orthotic products.

Footwork Podiatric Laboratory is now in its 20th year and has recently moved from Hallam to Atlantic Drive in Keysborough in Melbourne’s south-east where larger and more modern premises not only provides for the company’s production needs but also gives Maliszewski the opportunity to hold onsite seminars.

The majority of Socceroos are among the company’s clients and it is the official orthotics supplier to both Melbourne Victory and Melbourne Heart. Three other A-League clubs use FPL’s products.

“We develop orthotic devices to correct the way a person walks or runs and to minimise or reduce the potential for injury,” said Maliszewski.

“It’s kind of like wheels on your car. Nobody’s built perfectly and if the wheels on your car are misaligned you’ll be fine if you only drive to church every Sunday but if you go on a racetrack every day then you’re going to have problems.

“You sometimes get players who seek a second opinion and being a podiatrist I’ve often been involved in that. We regularly meet at players’ houses and it’s very much behind the scenes and people don’t know much about it.

“But about a year back we created a list of the clients we have had and there pretty much are people

inside the top 10 in the world in most major sports who wear our products.

“We spent a lot of money on technology and putting systems into place and our quality is the best around.”

Didier Drogba, Harry Kewell and Mark Bresciano are just some of the benefactors of FPL’s expertise.

**New contract for Wright?**  
**BAILEY Wright was set to sign a contract extension with English League One outfit Preston North End as we went to press.**

Wright captained the Deepdale side in last weekend’s home draw with Coventry.

He’d previously captained North End in a cup match but this was his first league game in charge.

The club has told him that he is seen as a future leader.

Young Socceroo Jamie MacLaren did not sign on loan with struggling SPL side Dundee after visiting Dens Park last week.

The latest on the 19-year-old striker is that he is back at Blackburn Rovers but still looks likely to go out on loan.

Jackson Irvine will resume full training with Celtic next week. He has been sidelined since November after suffering an ankle ligament injury in the Young Socceroos’ AFC Under-19 semi-final loss to Iraq in the UAE.

Celtic recently exercised the option in Irvine’s contract securing his services at least until the end of the 2013/14 season.

**THIS IS FOOTBALL**  
www.thisisfootball.com.au



**CLUB KIT SPECIALIST**  
**P: 03 9428 3066**  
**189 Swan Street Richmond Vic 3121. Email: thisisfootball@live.com.au**

**VICTORIA'S LEADER IN TEAM WEAR**



# The first season of summer football, 1989–90

**Blast From The Past**

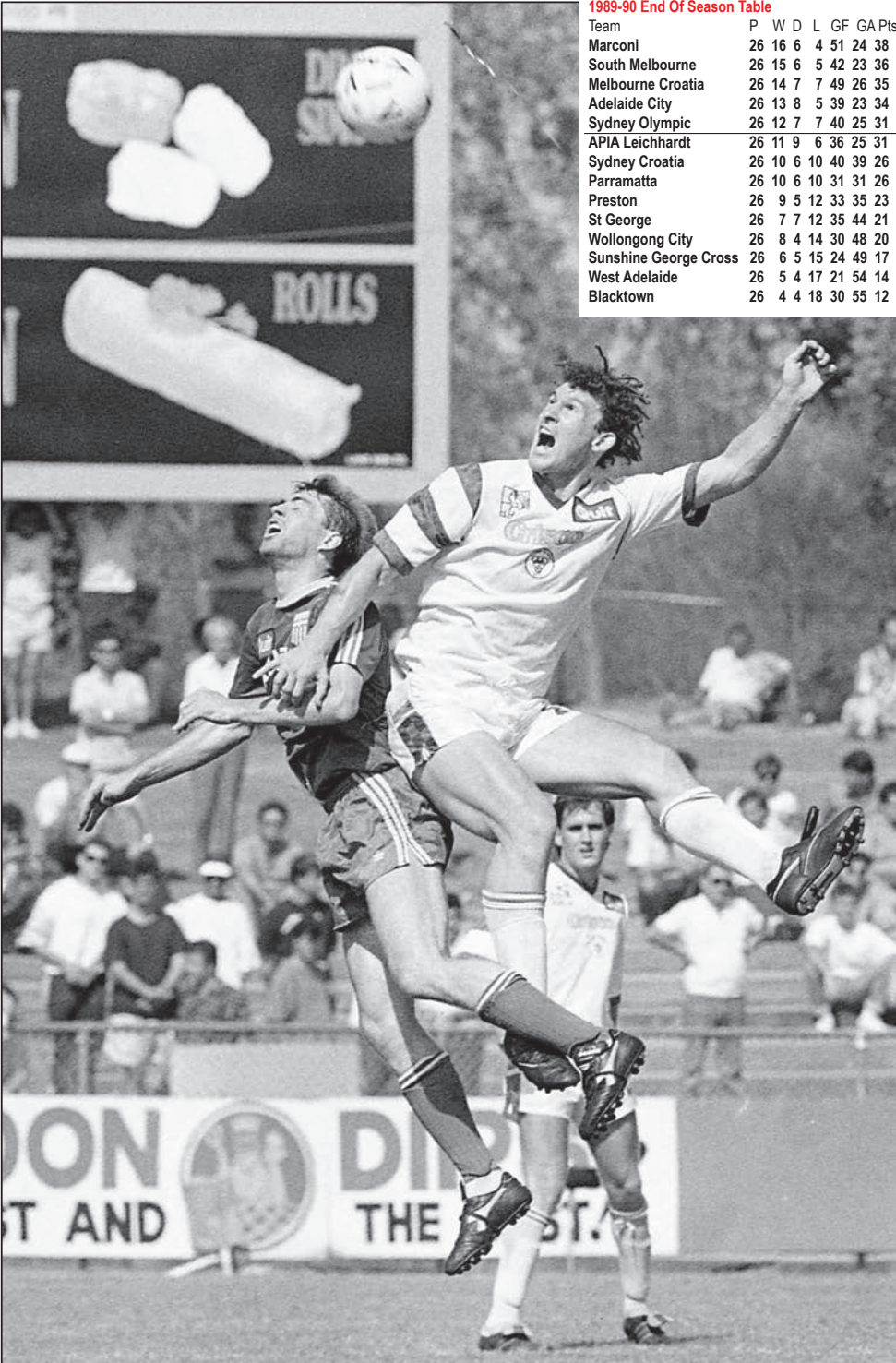


**By Roy Hay**

In the 1980s the Australian Soccer Federation (ASF) and the National Soccer League (NSL) struggled to organise a competition which would attract fans, players, the media and corporate sponsors. The competition from other codes of football was fierce and experiments including the splitting of the league into two to increase the number of local derbies and reduce travelling costs proved controversial, confusing and ultimately unsuccessful.

In 1984 the NSL was split into two regionalised competitions and Craig Mackenzie wrote of a new era in soccer. The Australian Conference had eight Sydney clubs including three new teams, Sydney Croatia, Blacktown and Melita Eagles, plus Penrith (then beyond the Metropolitan area), Wollongong, Newcastle and Canberra. The National Conference had eight Victorian clubs including four newcomers—Green Gully Ajax, Melbourne Croatia, Brunswick United Juventus and Sunshine George Cross—plus Brisbane City, Brisbane Lions, Adelaide City and West Adelaide. Relegation was a thorny problem and Wollongong, Canberra and Newcastle were quarantined as growth areas whose clubs would only be removed from the league if they finished last two seasons in a row. Crowd numbers were seen as critical and it was hoped that the new competition, with its high-drawing Croatian teams in particular, would do significantly better than in the first seven years of the NSL.

In fact crowds continued to fall, reaching a low point of only 2000 on average in 1985 and not exceeding the 1983 average until the league reverted to a single division in 1987. Sydney City was withdrawn after one round of the 1987 season by its president, Frank Lowy, which he said proved that lack of support made the club unviable despite its highly successful on-field performance. After struggling for media exposure in competition with Australian Rules football and rugby league, the ASF decided to switch to a summer competition after the conclusion of the 1989 winter season. Better pitches, more comfort for spectators, alignment with the northern hemisphere season and increased media coverage were all touted as gains, though players often suffered in extreme heat in summer matches. Marconi finished on top of the



South Melbourne v Sydney Olympic / 04-Mar-1990 : Two of the game's high-fliers, Sydney Olympic's Robert Ironside (right) and South Melbourne's Paul Wade show their skills at Middle Park. Photo: JOHN PUNSHON

ladder in the first summer season two points clear of South Melbourne with Melbourne Croatia third. Sydney Olympic caused the biggest upset. They scraped into the play-offs in fifth place in the last home and away round. Olympic was leading one-nil at Blacktown but Geoff Gunning equalised in the 92nd minute. That meant APIA Leichhardt only needed a draw at Somers Street when they met Melbourne Croatia but the home team got up thanks to Francis Awaratife's goal. APIA and Olympic finished on 31 points, but Olympic had the better goal difference. In the play-offs, South Melbourne and Melbourne Croatia could only be separated on penalties after a one-all draw. Marconi beat Croatia one-nil thanks to a late goal by Kiwi international Fred de Jong in

the major semi final. Meanwhile Olympic accounted for Adelaide City with a double by Grant Lee. Then an Alastair Edwards goal got Olympic past South Melbourne and in the Preliminary Final Olympic knocked out Melbourne Croatia by two-one. Awaratife gave Croatia the lead, but Robert Ironside equalised and Abbas Saad grabbed a late winner. Sydney Olympic beat Marconi two-nil in the first summer Grand Final in 1990 in front of 26,352, the NSL record crowd to that point. Edwards opened for Olympic in 37 minutes and Robert Ironside scored the second just after the hour. The Olympic squad that year included: Clint Gosling, David Barrett, Robert Hooker, Grant Lee, Gary Phillips, Tony Spyridakos, Robert Ironside, Andrew Bernal, Steve Refenes, Alistair

1989-90 End Of Season Table									
Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts		
Marconi	26	16	6	4	51	24	38		
South Melbourne	26	15	6	5	42	23	36		
Melbourne Croatia	26	14	7	7	49	26	35		
Adelaide City	26	13	8	5	39	23	34		
Sydney Olympic	26	12	7	7	40	25	31		
APIA Leichhardt	26	11	9	6	36	25	31		
Sydney Croatia	26	10	6	10	40	39	26		
Parramatta	26	10	6	10	31	31	26		
Preston	26	9	5	12	33	35	23		
St George	26	7	7	12	35	44	21		
Wollongong City	26	8	4	14	30	48	20		
Sunshine George Cross	26	6	5	15	24	49	17		
West Adelaide	26	5	4	17	21	54	14		
Blacktown	26	4	4	18	30	55	12		



NSL Semi-final - South Melbourne v Melbourne Croatia / 29-Apr-1990: Francis Awaratife; (Melbourne Croatia) complete with dreadlocks and head band clashes with Mehmet Durakovic (South Melbourne) in Semi-Final won on penalties by Melbourne Croatia. Photo: JOHN PUNSHON



Eddie Thomson and Mick Hickman coaching Sydney Olympic. Source: Aussie Soccer, September-October 1989, p. 8.

casting the NSL in the 1989–90 season, but it lasted only three years in the role. By the end of 1989 the ASF had accrued accumulated losses of \$690,497. Partly as a consequence the ASF introduced a levy in 1990 of \$1 on every junior and \$5 on every senior player to help meet its obligations. In 1992, when David Hill was its head the ABC withdrew from covering the Socceroos and the NSL, which had a severe impact on the ASF's revenue and on sponsorship already in existence and being negotiated. Hill later claimed he had nothing to do with the decision, but that is hard to credit. In the long run summer football has proved a success for the game in Australia and there was never any question that Football Federation Australia would revert to a winter competition.

- How it Finished In 1989/90**
- 1989/90 Season Finals Series**
- Qualifying Semi-final**
- South Melbourne 1 (Peter Tsolakis 7')
- Melbourne Croatia 1 (Joe Caleta 23')
- (Melbourne Croatia won 7-6 on penalties)
- Elimination Semi-final**
- Adelaide City 1 (Aurelio Vidmar 7')
- Sydney Olympic 2 (Grant Lee 22', 33')
- Major Semi-final**
- Marconi 1 (Fred De Jong 88')
- Melbourne Croatia 0
- Minor Semi-final**
- South Melbourne 0
- Sydney Olympic 1 (Alastair Edwards 57')
- Preliminary Final**
- Melb Croatia 1 (Francis Awaratife 30')
- Sydney Olympic 2 (Robert Ironside 37', Abbas Saad 81')
- Grand Final**
- Marconi 0 Sydney Olympic 2 (Alastair Edwards 34', Robert Ironside 61')

**MELBOURNE SPORTS BOOKS**

**Mon-Fri: 9.30am-5pm Sat: 10am-12noon**

**51 Brunswick Road, East Brunswick, VIC 3057**

Phone:- (03) 9662 1085

[www.melbournesportsbooks.com.au](http://www.melbournesportsbooks.com.au)

Email:- [info@melbournesportsbooks.com.au](mailto:info@melbournesportsbooks.com.au)


Contact:- Santo 0421 793 833

**Have you discovered Mr Cleansheets yet?**

If not, you're missing out on the greatest rollicking football romp since Bert Trautmann put his neck on the line for Man City in the 1956 Cup Final.

Vicious hooligans, Irish mafia, nymphomaniac pop stars and shedloads of football.

Get your hard copy at any bookstore or buy online at [www.mrcleansheets.com](http://www.mrcleansheets.com) (ebook also available).





**V-LEAGUE** *Premiership*

**We Love Futsal**

# Women's Futsal here to stay!

The Australia Day long weekend played host to the biggest Women's Futsal club tournament held in this country. With teams from VIC, NSW, QLD, ACT and NZ the Women's FAFL Cup was one that will live in the memory bank for a long time.

Both Groups were extremely close. In Group A the top 3 teams only separated by 1 point, while in Group B it was a two horse race. Sydney Warriors and Macarthur Heart (both NSW teams) progressed to the finals from Group A and Parramatta Blues and Rovers Futsal (both NSW teams) progressed to the finals from Group B.

## ROVERS SEAL DEAL LATE IN EXTRA TIME

### 2013 Women's FAFL Semi-Final 1

What a fantastic game between two fierce rivals! Just when we thought we had seen the game of the tournament between Parramatta and Rovers in the group Stage, the rovers had produced a real escape act against a severely depleted Warriors side!

With only one sub for the last three games, the Warriors had run out of legs but certainly had not run out of spirit! Leading 3-2 with only 30 second left in the game, Rovers striker Georgina Stylianou popped up to slot the winner past Luseane Cook – who held high claims for player of the match honours – to make it 3-3.

It didn't get any easier for the warriors in extra time either! After saving three penalties (one short and two long penalties) Warriors keeper, Cook, couldn't keep out the rebound from Rovers' Monique Kofoed who was quickest to react, giving her side the lead with only seconds on the clock! It seriously was an epic encounter with plenty of action and emotion, more than worthy of being a final!

With that win the rovers march on to the final, but not without knowing that they had to produce one of the wins of the tournament to get there! Credit to both teams! Now we wait to see who will join the Rovers in the final as Macarthur and Parramatta are now on the pitch!

**Rovers Futsal 4 (G.Stylianou 2, M. Kofoed 2) def. Sydney Warriors 3 (D. Howard, K. Kraft, R. Perrins) AET.**

### 2013 Women's FAFL Semi-Final 2

What a semi final series we had at Futsal Oz, the second semi final being decided in the same



Parramatta Blues 2013 Women's FAFL Cup 2013 championships.  
Photo: Matt Montgomery



Rovers Futsal goalkeeper Tani Rosekelly clears the ball under pressure  
Photo: DAMIAN BRIGGS

### manner as the first.

A 4-3 scoreline and a tight finish until the very end! It was goal for goal well into the second half, until a late double from Parramatta's Jodie Bain sealed the three points. Bain showed steady nerves and sheer quality as she slotted from the far penalty spot to level at 3-3 and then blasted from her own half into an empty net as Macarthur went for broke employing the 'fly

keeper' which in the end was a tactic that didn't pay off.

As always the rock in the Blues defence, Fabiana Perfilio chipped in with a goal and set the tone for her team mates, always putting in the hard yards – certainly a contender for MVP of the tournament! Arguably the two best teams have made the final so make sure that you strap yourselves in because this game will have plenty of action!

Two full, hungry and determined squads going to battle! Good luck to both Rovers Futsal and Parramatta Blues

**Parramatta Blues 4 (J. Bain 2, F. Perfilio, L. Didusko) def. Macarthur Heart 3 (K. Miandineo, Z. Redman, C. Walsh)**

### Parramatta Blues win Inaugural Women's FAFL Cup

#### 2013 Women's FAFL Grand - Final

Congratulations to Parramatta Blues who have been crowned with a hard fought win over Rovers Futsal.

After both sides drew in the group stages and had close semi final wins, many had predicted that the result between these two New South Wales sides would go down to the very last second! After leading early in the second half, it looked like the rovers were going to steady the ship and build on their momentum to claim the title, but two quick goals from Trudi Camelleri and Fabiana Perfilio completely changed the game in Parramatta's favour – Perfilio scoring undoubtedly the goal of the WFAFL, sliding to the ball that was going out and chipping the keeper.

The Blues, sensing their opportunity parked the bus and looked to hold their two-goal buffer, but a late goal from the Rovers made the final minutes of the game quite exciting. The entire crowd was on the edge of their seat in the last 30 seconds, with Parramatta keeper Mel Khoury denying the Rovers a dramatic equaliser and there was more drama to follow as from the resulting strike from the corner deflected off the underside of the



Rovers Futsal Georgina Stylianou (L) is congratulated by team mate Sarah Yatim (R) after her goal to force the semi final into extra time. Photo: Damian Briggs

## Women's FAFL Cup Table

### GROUP A – Ladder

Rank	Club	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
1	Sydney Warriors (NSW)	4	2	2	0	15	5	+10	8
2	Macarthur Heart (NSW)	4	2	2	0	10	5	+5	8
3	Brisbane Futsal (QLD)	4	2	1	1	10	10	0	7
4	Cobras Futsal (VIC)	4	1	1	2	12	12	0	4
5	FS Canberra (ACT)	4	0	0	4	3	22	-19	0

### GROUP B – Ladder

Rank	Club	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
1	Parramatta Blues (NSW)	4	3	1	0	17	6	+11	9
2	Rovers Futsal (NSW)	4	3	1	0	17	12	+5	9
4	FC Queensland (QLD)	4	2	0	2	12	13	-1	6
3	Mainland Futsal (NZ)	4	1	0	3	14	18	-4	3
5	Pascoe Vale (VIC)	4	0	0	4	10	23	-13	0

crossbar but not over the line!

It was very close but no cigar for the Rovers as the buzzer went! It certainly was the best left until last! What a fantastic game!

**Parramatta Blues 5 (L. Didusko, F. Perfilio, J. Bain, T. Camilleri, R. Scarlato) def. 4 Rovers Futsal (M. Kofoed, J. Kent, N. Caridad, J. Saliba)**

There were also individual awards handed out for outstanding performances over the weekend they were as follows:

**MVP:** Fabiana Perfilio (Parramatta Blues)

**Golden Glove:** Tani Rosekelly (Rovers Futsal)

**Golden Boot:** Sarah Richardson (Pascoe Vale), Lauren Didsuko (Parramatta Blues) and Monique Kofoed (Rovers) 6 Goals

Highlights videos of all matches will be shown on our Youtube channel in the coming weeks! Or to review any of the reports/photos from the weekend go to <http://www.facebook.com/faflcup>

Thank you to all of the teams who participated in the Inaugural WFAFL Cup. It truly was a special weekend and all of us here at Futsal Oz can't wait for the second edition that will be in the planning shortly!

**The Futbol Town Show every Tuesday 6.30pm on C31 and C44Digital**

**FUTSAL**

**FUTSAL**

**Store**

**Juniors Men Women Mixed Elite**

[-futsaloz.com.au](http://futsaloz.com.au) **-1300 788 799** **-407 Victoria St, Brunswick Vic**



# Victory Keeps The Heat on Central Coast Mariners

By Daniel Quinn

There were plenty of goals in Round 14 of the National Youth League (NYL) as the Victory won the Melbourne Youth Derby, the Mariners won with nine men and Sydney and Perth played out a thriller, plus much, much more.

A nine man Central Coast Mariners held onto their first-half lead to defeat Adelaide United 2-1 on Saturday morning.

Adriano Pellegrino was sent off after just eight minutes for spitting at Adelaide's Jacob Melling, but the Mariners took the lead after 24 minutes thanks to a great finish from Patrick Dixon.

Central Coast then doubled their lead six minutes later as Brad McDonald capitalized on defensive misunderstanding and slotted into an empty net.

Ten minutes after the resumption Thomas Briscoe cut the deficit after Mariners' gloveman David Bradasevic made a mess of a clearance.

The Mariners finished with nine as Hayden Morton was given his marching order for pulling down Liam Wooding as the last man.

The Newcastle Jets eased past the AIS with a 5-2 thrashing in Canberra on Saturday afternoon.

Marko Jesic opened the scoring just after 76 seconds finishing into the bottom corner past AIS goalkeeper Lucas Spinella.

However Marc Marino leveled for the Institute on 37 minutes with a fine finish after Steve Kuzmanovski confused the defence with some cheeky step-overs.

But substitute Brandon Lundy regained the lead for the Jets 24 seconds after coming on at half-time, with a nice finish from a tight angle.

Shortly later Lundy grabbed his brace with a wonderful curling effort into the top corner, although Jesic went one better with an exquisite lob.

With five minutes remaining



NYL Derby action from Melbourne Victory's 3-1 triumph over Melbourne Heart, played at SS Anderson Reserve.  
Photo: JIM WEBSTER / BREATHING FOOTBALL

Lundy powered in his third completing his hat-trick, before Joshua Barresi bundled home the AIS' second in stoppage-time. The Melbourne Victory were too strong for the Melbourne Heart in the Melbourne Youth Derby on Sunday at SS Anderson Reserve with a 3-1 win. Victory Skipper Luke O'Dea thumped into the top corner past Alastair Bray to open the scoring. Pain skinned Ersin Kaya and sent in a drilled cross only for Heart defender Will Abbott to slide in and fire into the roof of his own net giving the Victory a two-goal lead. On 26 minutes the Victory made it 3-0 as Makarounas, in his first Victory appearance, found the bottom corner with a great low finish from

the edge of the area. Heart's dismal first-half continued as Groenewald was given his marching orders for a strong, late challenge on Pain. Stefan Mauk beat two defenders and bounced a strike nicely into the bottom corner giving the Heart a consolidation. The Western Sydney Wanderers convincingly defeated the Brisbane Roar 4-0 at Cook Park on Sunday evening. Jason Trifiro got the hosts off to a great start as the midfielder slammed the opener after a nice lay off from Daniel Barac. On 34 minutes Yianni Perkatitis doubled Western Sydney's advantage placing the ball into the bottom corner past Roar 'keeper

Fraser Chalmers. Mark Cindric then added the third with a sweet, powerful strike. Brisbane finished with ten men as Kwame Yeboah received his second yellow and was sent to the stands. Soon afterwards Rock Visconte fired in the fourth, scoring against the club he left only a few weeks ago. Meanwhile at the Intiga Stadium, Sydney FC edged out Perth Glory 4-3 in a thrilling encounter. Hagi Gligor gave the Sky Blues an early lead poking home from close-range after Perth couldn't clear on just 16 minutes. Harry O'Brien, though, leveled for the Glory eleven minutes later from outside the box.

It didn't take the Glory long to take the lead as Ndumba Makeche blasted in off the upright. But Perth could only keep their lead for three minutes as defender Daniel Petkovski rifled in from the edge of the area equalizing for the visitors. Nikola Taneski then gave the visitors the lead nine minutes after the break. Just after the hour mark the Sky Blues made it 4-2 as Petkovski was found unmarked and headed in his second. Brandon O'Neill's stunning free kick meant the last 12 minutes were tense, but Sydney held on for a much-needed win.

## Round 14 Results

**Perth Glory 3** (Harry O'Brien 27, Ndumba Makeche 34, Brandon O'Neill 78)  
**Sydney FC 4** (Hagi Gligor 16, Daniel Petkovski 37, 63 Nikola Taneski 54)

**Western Sydney Wanderers 4** (Jason Trifiro 3, Yianni Perkatitis 34, Mark Cindric 61, Rocky Visconte 75)  
**Brisbane Roar 0**

**Melbourne Victory 3** (O'Dea 13, Abbott 22og, Makarounas 26)  
**Melbourne Heart 1** (Mauk 60)

**AIS 2** (Marc Marino 37', Joshua Barresi 90+2')  
**Newcastle Jets 5** (Marko Jesic 2', 73', Brandon Lundy 46', 57', 85')

**Central Coast Mariners 2** (Patrick Dixon 24, Brad McDonald 30)  
**Adelaide United 1** (Tomas Briscoe 55)

## NYL Standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
1 CC Mariners	14	11	0	3	33	22	11 33
2 Melbourne Victory	14	10	0	4	41	16	25 30
3 Newcastle Jets	14	6	1	6	38	30	8 22
4 Perth Glory	14	7	1	6	38	33	5 22
5 Melbourne Heart	14	7	1	6	25	20	5 22
6 Adelaide United	14	6	3	5	30	24	6 21
7 Brisbane Roar	14	6	2	6	28	28	0 20
8 Sydney FC	14	5	1	8	33	37	-4 16
9 WS Wanderers	14	4	4	6	19	32	-13 16
10 AIS	13	1	1	11	13	50	-37 4

## Round 15 Fixtures

**Saturday 2 February KO 2:00 PM**  
**AIS v Western Sydney**  
**AIS Athletics Track**

**Saturday 2 February KO 5:00 PM**  
**Brisbane Roar v Central Coast Mariners**  
**Goodwin Park, Yeronga**

**Saturday 2 February KO 5:30 PM**  
**Adelaide United v Sydney FC**  
**Burton Park**

**Sunday 3 February KO 3:00 PM**  
**Melbourne Victory v Perth Glory**  
**SS Anderson Res, Port Melbourne**

**Sunday 3 February KO 5:00 PM**  
**Newcastle Jets v Melbourne Heart**  
**Wanderers Oval, Broadmeadow**  
All KO times ae AEDT

# Valkanis' focus on the job at hand

By Nic Kerber

**Interim Adelaide United FC Coach Michael Valkanis' only concern heading into the next nine games of the season is on the Reds winning games and featuring in the finals.**

At the end of a tumultuous 24 hours that was triggered by John Kosmina's sudden resignation from the top role, Valkanis was left calling the shots at training this morning as he attempts to get the squad to overcome the off field distractions and have them ready for a crunch home game against the Western Sydney Wanderers on Sunday.

The Assistant Coach to Kosmina before the news came out that Kosmina had quit the club, Valkanis has been handed the reins for the rest of the season with nine weeks to go before finals.

Following Kosmina's announcement which led to Club Chairman Greg Griffin stating Valkanis would take over the role on an interim basis, the former Reds defender called the squad in for a light training session yesterday afternoon, using it to ensure the players' focus

was on the games ahead, starting with Western Sydney on Sunday, and not any off field drama.

"It was a strange one...your life changes when you don't expect it to, but you've got to get on with it," Valkanis said in regards to taking on the role.

"This opportunity has come up now, I'm willing to help out the club as an interim coach, do the job that is required and hopefully get the best out of the players to achieve our goal."

"I think it was important to have a chat to the boys in terms of what's going on, what's happened and what the real focus should be, and that's winning football games, and we know this week we've got an important game coming up," Valkanis said.

Valkanis remained tight lipped on exactly what he said to the players, but revealed the emphasis was on striving to win games, putting in a hundred per cent at training and making something of position they have put themselves in.

"The club is bigger than anyone and we've got a big job at hand and a great opportunity for all of us to achieve something big, and we need to focus on

winning games," Valkanis said. "We need to focus on improving day in day out here on the park, that's where we're going to get better. We need to really work hard and hopefully get the results to get up a bit higher on the ladder and be in the finals."

From various areas on the outside, Valkanis has been embroiled in rumours and innuendo that he was earmarked to take over the Head Coaching role from next season, leading some to believe it was part of the reason for Kosmina's shock decision.

However, Valkanis strongly denies any speculation that his future at the club had or has ever been discussed or decided with the Board, and he is determined to clear the air surrounding the murmurings. "I'll mention something once about it and that's it. I have great respect for Kossie. I played under him and played good football under him, and I worked very hard under him as an assistant coach and did everything he asked me to do and even more sometimes," Valkanis said.

"They are difficult circumstances how it has all come up because we weren't expecting Kossie to resign. The club is

fourth on the ladder and I know in the coming weeks he was supposed to have a chat with the Board about moving forwards."

"I never had spoken to the club about next year, I've never spoken to the club about the head coach, and the club never spoke to me. For me, I was always the Assistant and the Youth Team coach and I really enjoyed that role."

"Obviously now the circumstances have chosen that I've got to fulfil this role until the end of the season and I'll do that to the best of my ability like I've done as a player for this club."

"I'll expect that the players work really hard and give it their all, because like I said the club is bigger than anyone, it's a great club, we need everyone to get behind it and we need all of the support we can get because we're fourth on the ladder."

In the time that he has to put his influence on the team and bring a sense of 'stability' back after the off field events of the past fortnight, which included the financial settlement with former coach Rini Coolen, the non compromising Valkanis said it was simply about getting results.



When two becomes one: Michael Valkanis takes over the reins from John Kosmina at Adelaide United.

"We know it's not the best thing and you'd like to have stability at a club, but I think the only way to fix the brand is to play good football and to win games," Valkanis said. "From day one this club has had great support. Now along the way it has fallen off for whatever reason but everyone has got to jump back on board because we've got a team that is right up there."

"We've got to talk about playing good football and winning games, and that's what we want people talking about, and that's how we're going to fix the image of the club."

"We need to get back some confidence in what we were doing earlier on but we've got good players and I think we'll turn it around."



## Santo, Sam & Ed Podcast

Santo Cilauro, Sam Pang and Ed Kavalee are back in town with their own unique take on events of the week.

**Their brief is simple - 7 days, 3 guys, no agenda.**

**Podcast available on iTunes**

<http://itun.es/au/dOdQl.c>

**Facebook: Santo, Sam and Ed**

**Twitter: @SantoSamEd**





# SudAmericano U20 Heads Into Final Stages



## Latin Wrap

By Francis Fields

The road to Turkey 2013 for the Under 20 World Cup this week, Chile defeated Colombia 1-0 on Wednesday in Mendoza at the Malvinas Argentinas stadium meanwhile Peru fought for its own fate turning around its fortunes.

It was an exciting match against Ecuador on Thursday. Yordy Reyna scoring a brace in the first half and was instrumental for Andy Polo, the young Peruvian sensation to score the winner and proving his case.

Peru are now on six points. Now in its final stages with Colombia qualified by defeating Uruguay 1-0, the Chileans and Uruguayans however remain in the balance and must win their last matches.

Chile especially will have an arduous task facing Peru on Tuesday AEST in always tough "Battle of the Pacific".

If Chile wins, currently on 6 points they shall qualify with nine.

Alongside Colombia, Chile and Uruguay fighting for qualification for the four spots up for grabs is Paraguay leaving Peru and Ecuador in fifth and sixth spot.

Colombia has impressed greatly with a young side. Paraguay meets Uruguay in what is always a hard fought duel.

### LIBERTADORES QUALIFIER UPDATE

In the Copa Libertadores, Deportes Iquique of Chile advanced to the second round of the Copa Libertadores after beating Mexican side León 4-2 in a penalty shootout on Wednesday.

Iquique, who came from behind to secure a 1-1 draw at Leon last week, secured the same result in the second leg.

Yovanny Arcechea put Leon in front in the 47th minute before captain Rodrigo Diaz restored parity for the Chilean club with a penalty 11 minutes later.

Neither side was able to break the deadlock in regulation time, forcing the contest into the 84th shootout in Copa Libertadores history.

Goalkeeper Rodrigo Naranjo proved the difference for Iquique in the shootout with two telling saves before Diaz found the net again to secure the victory.

Iquique will take on Argentina's Vélez Sarsfield, Uruguay's Peñarol and Ecuador's Emelec in Group 4 of the second round.

It will also be an exciting opportunity for the club, in its first appearance and for the seaside tourist city.

Meanwhile, Tigre brushed aside



Colombia qualifies to Turkey 2013 but lost on Wednesday to Chile.

Deportivo Anzoátegui 5-1 on aggregate following a 3-0 win away from home in the second leg.

Ruben Botta opened the scoring for Tigre in the eighth minute before second-half goals from Federico Santander and Ezequiel Maggiolo put the result beyond doubt for the Argentinean club.

Tigre will meet Peru's Sporting Cristal, Paraguay's Libertad and Brazil's Palmeiras in Group 2 of the second round.

Finally just to wrap up this week's headlines across the continent, high-flying Neymar has made it clear that he has not yet made a decision about his future amid ongoing interest from Barcelona.

The La Liga outfit are hopeful that right-back Dani Alves can convince his friend to make the move to the Catalan giants, but the 20-year-old is in no rush to make a final decision as he has revealed that he could also opt to renew his contract with his current club.

m"Dani's always embarrassing me! He's put me in a tight spot," Neymar was quoted as saying by FIFA.com.

"Even I don't know whether I'll still be at Santos after the World Cup. My contract runs to 2014 but there is still a long way to go before the World Cup. I don't know if I will renew it or not.

"It's a personal issue and I'll have to talk it through with my family and Santos. We'll definitely speak about it further down the line."

Neymar then went on to discuss Brazil's chances at the 2014 World Cup, and stressed that they need time to improve.

"If you look at the ranking, Brazil aren't in the top five at the moment. But we're working hard on the team's identity and at becoming more of a unit," he said.

"We haven't been playing together for that long. The team's been

through a lot of changes and it needs time to forge that identity and reach the top again."

### Robinho welcomes Balotelli to Milan

AC Milan attacker Robinho is confident that Mario Balotelli will succeed with the club and help the team move in the right direction.

The Italy international will undergo a medical at the San Siro side on Wednesday to complete his move back to Serie A from Manchester City, and the Brazilian is looking forward to teaming up with his new team-mate.

"Balotelli is a great player and will definitely help the squad. We are happy he has arrived and we are all going to welcome him. Let's hope he does well for Milan," Robinho told Milan Channel.

The Brazilian then went on to discuss Milan's chances in Serie A, and stressed they are at a crucial stage of the season as they chase a Champions League spot.

"There's enthusiasm in the changing room and we're getting better. There are still plenty of games to go and every three points will help us move up the table," he said.

"The beginning of the campaign wasn't good, and once more the Italian league is proving to be difficult, but at the moment we're experiencing a good run of form in this crucial point of the season, and with 16 games to go anything is possible."

Milan have climbed to fifth spot in the table following their good results in recent weeks.

### FIFA warn Brazil against stadium delays

FIFA secretary general Jerome Valcke has spoken of the importance of delivering functioning stadia on time as

### the 2014 World Cup edges closer.

With the countdown to the event in Brazil into its final 500 days, Valcke was part of a group of FIFA officials who met with organisers to receive technical information about the preparation of the Estadio Nacional for the FIFA Confederations Cup this year.

The FIFA secretary was particularly concerned with the telecommunications setups in the stadiums, saying 'without telecommunication there is no World Cup'.

"We should never forget that the problem is not the stadium at the end, because when the stadium is finished telecommunication has to work and they have to install all of the systems," Valcke said.

"That's why we are pushing to have stadiums delivered on time, because there is a lot of work to do after the delivery of the stadium.

"You cannot organise a World Cup without telecommunications, not just because our world is about telecommunication.

"It's just that the World Cup is for the world, as you can imagine. It's not only for Brazil, it's for the rest of the world and we have to bring the pictures.

"Half-a-billion people will watch the opening game, more than a billion people will watch the final and an average of 350 to 400 million per game so without telecommunication there is no World Cup.

"We are working to make sure that they (the stadiums) will be ready, if not in 2013 at least in the early 2014."

### De Laurentiis: Cavani not for sale

Napoli president Aurelio De



Chile's Deportes Iquique advances to the second round of the Copa Libertadores after beating Mexico's Leon 4-2.

## SudAmericano U20

Group A - Final Standings										
	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts		
1 Chile	4	4	0	0	8	3	+5	12		
2 Colombia	4	2	0	2	10	5	+5	6		
3 Paraguay	4	2	0	2	9	6	+3	6		
4 Argentina	4	1	1	2	6	7	-1	4		
5 Bolivia	4	0	1	3	3	15	-12	1		

Paraguay 2 - 3 Chile  
Colombia 6 - 0 Bolivia  
Paraguay 5 - 1 Bolivia  
Argentina 3 - 2 Colombia

Group B - Final Standings										
	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts		
1 Peru	4	2	1	1	7	5	+2	7		
2 Uruguay	4	1	3	0	10	9	+1	6		
3 Ecuador	4	1	2	1	5	5	+0	5		
4 Venezuela	4	1	1	2	3	4	-1	4		
5 Brazil	4	1	1	2	4	6	-2	4		

Peru 1 - 0 Venezuela  
Uruguay 2 - 2 Ecuador  
Brazil 1 - 0 Venezuela  
Ecuador 2 - 1 Peru  
Uruguay 2 - 2 Venezuela  
Brazil 0 - 2 Peru

Final Group - Current Standings										
	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts		
1 Colombia	4	3	0	1	4	2	+2	9		
2 Paraguay	3	2	1	0	5	2	+3	7		
3 Uruguay	3	2	0	1	4	2	+2	6		
4 Chile	4	2	0	2	6	5	+1	6		
5 Peru	4	1	1	2	5	7	-2	4		
6 Ecuador	4	0	0	4	4	10	-6	0		

Peru 1 - 1 Paraguay  
Colombia 1 - 0 Uruguay  
Chile 0 - 1 Uruguay  
Peru 0 - 1 Colombia  
Paraguay 1 - 0 Ecuador  
Chile 1 - 0 Colombia  
Peru 3 - 2 Ecuador

Paraguay v Uruguay  
Chile v Peru  
Colombia v Paraguay  
Uruguay v Ecuador



## WANT TO PLAY SOCCER IN THE USA?

NSR Soccer Australia scout, evaluate & promote Australian players to 2500+ USA Colleges.

**NSR**  
soccer australia

Register for a trial in your region, to find out more visit [www.nsrsocceraustralia.com](http://www.nsrsocceraustralia.com)





# MORELAND ZEBRAS & YOUTH

[www.morelandzebras.com.au](http://www.morelandzebras.com.au)



## ALL AGE GROUPS 8-18 REQUIRED GIRLS AND BOYS

De Chene Reserve Coburg

Contact Rowena: 0407 515 707 or Lou: 0417 301 191

BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS FOOTBALL CLUB INC. Reg. No. A0025001P



### Balkan Wrap

By Alex Milic

**Serbia**  
Radovan Curcic has been appointed as the new coach of Serbia's Under-21 team.

The 41-year-old has signed a contract until the end of the 2013-15 UEFA European U21 Championship campaign, which concludes with the final tournament in the Czech Republic. Curcic replaces current Red Star Belgrade manager Aleksandar Jankovic, who stepped down from the U21 post following Serbia's failure to qualify for this summer's finals in Israel. Following a low-key playing career as a centre-back, Curcic started coaching immediately after his retirement in 2003. He guided home-town club FK Javor to the best season in their history when they were promoted to the Serbian top flight in season 2004/05, and has also worked for FK Borac Cacak.



Drogba on his way to Istanbul from China.

Curcic became assistant to senior Serbia boss Vladimir Petrovic during qualification for UEFA EURO 2012 and was acting coach for the national side between October 2011 and May 2012. Serbia midfielder Zdravko Kuzmanovic is close to signing for Italian giants Internazionale from Bundesliga side VfB Stuttgart in a deal reported to be worth 2m euros while former Partizan and national team midfielder

Zvonimir Vukic has signed for Greek side PAOK on a free transfer. Dejan Stankovic has accepted Serbia national team manager's Sinisa Mihajlovic's call to help the national team in the upcoming clash against Croatia in March. The vital World Cup Qualifier will take place in Zagreb a ground Stankovic knows too well having scored both of Yugoslavia's goals in a Euro 2000 qualifier which

sent Yugoslavia to the finals while Croatia stayed home.



**Turkey**  
Galatasaray AS have completed their second marquee signing in as many weeks after Didier Drogba agreed terms on a one-and-a-half-year contract, following the arrival of Dutch international Wesley Sneijder.

"Big clubs can only reach their goals by signing high-profile players," said club president Ünal Aysal. "Drogba spoke to Fatih Terim and told us that he was very happy to be joining a club of Galatasaray's stature."

The 34-year-old forward, who is currently on international duty with the Ivory Coast at the Africa Cup of Nations, boasts a wealth of UEFA Champions League experience having scored 39 goals in 77 appearances in the competition. He saved his most significant strike for last season's final, heading Chelsea FC level with FC Bayern München before scoring the penalty that gave the English club its first historic title. Drogba began his career in France, featuring for Le Mans UC 72, EA Guingamp and Olympique de Marseille before joining Chelsea in 2004, where he found the net 100 times in 226 Premier League games. His move to Turkey, meanwhile, brings to an end a sixth-month stay with Chinese side Shanghai Shenhua FC. Galatasaray face FC Schalke 04 in the UEFA Champions League round of 16, with the first leg in Istanbul on 20 February and the return in Germany on 12 March.

Meanwhile, Tolunay Kafkas is the new coach of Turkish Super League outfit Trabzonspor AS, signing a three-and-a-half-year contract to replace Senol Gunes who stepped down. The 44-year-old Kafkas had been working for the Turkish Football Association (TFF) as head of football development and Under-21 national team coach since October 2011. "Starting a new job at Trabzonspor, a club which I gave everything for, is a big responsibility and one of the most significant steps that I have taken in my life," he said. Former defender Kafkas played around 200 competitive games for the Black Sea side from 1993-97 before switching to Galatasaray A. He later played in Austria for SV Pasching, LASK Linz and FC Admira Wacker Mödling before retiring in 2005. As a coach, he led Kayserispor to Turkish Cup glory in 2007/08 and later worked at Gaziantepspor before taking up his role with the TFF.

**GENOVA**  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF SOCCER  
1300 793 505

GISS academies provide players the chance to be able to live their dreams, living the life of a professional European footballer, and living and breathing football daily at the highest level possible.

LIVE THE DREAM







EPL  
Wrap

By Andrew Bishara

## FA CUP'S LUST LIVES ON

Well, talk about surprises huh? I ranted on a couple of weeks previously how the FA Cup might have lost its allure; how in the past it was considered a major piece of silverware, that England would literally “stop” in its tracks come the final.

Nowadays, clubs see qualification into the Champions League (and for some clubs winning it) as the Holy Grail; that the big boys would put out their ‘B’ team for the games, clearly showing no interest in winning it.

But this year has been a little different. Firstly, the big teams, (the likes of the Manchester clubs, Arsenal etc) have taken interest in winning the cup, by actually putting on full strength squads for the games. Yes, United faced Fulham and City had to contend with Stoke City, but they still put an impressive line up (at one point, City had Aguero, Tevez, Dzeko and Silva on the pitch). Even Sir Alex Ferguson admitted that: “The FA Cup’s an important trophy for us this season”, highlighting that it probably hasn’t been as important in the past.

Arsene Wenger too, coped a lot of flak in the past for putting out weakened teams, but against Brighton & Hove Albion, he threw on his best team. More so, because he knows this is his last chance to win a trophy this sea-



Bouzanis 3-2 Jones: Aussie keepers were in the thick of the FA Cup action

son, especially given the prospect they might not make the Champions League, his reputation is holding by a thread.

So too, does Rafael Benitez. Chelsea fans would gladly see the back of him, yet he enraged them more so; by admitting he is eyeing an extended stay at Stamford Bridge. So against Brentford he put out his best line up. As did Liverpool against Oldham and Tottenham against Leeds United. Which brings us to the second point...

The surprises! Arsenal needed an 85th minute deflected winner to go past Brighton, after a thrilling contest. A replay was definitely on the cards at the 84th minute of play. Chelsea twice came back to ensure they got their replay, but with a team as expensive as theirs, they should of breezed through the contest. Yet, those weren’t the biggest stories of the weekend.

QPR, Norwich, Aston Villa, Tottenham and Liverpool, all Premier League teams were bundled out of the competition by lower league teams. Oldham’s stunning 3-2 over Liverpool was a case in point about this season’s competition.

As Brendan Rodgers put out a full

team including the likes of Luis Suarez, Daniel Sturridge and Joe Allen in the team, they were dismantled by the League One side Oldham. It renounces the two previous criticisms with the competition: the lack of interest from the big teams and the absence of shocks.

Now, we’re in the Fifth Round of the competition, there are only six Premier League teams (not including Chelsea) in the last 16, with a mixture of lower league teams and Luton Town, who became the first non-league team to make it this far in the competition in 24 years.

With the status of this year’s competition, there is no doubting that more shocks will be on the horizon. Of course I could be wrong and everything could go back to normal. So here’s to hoping that this season’s FA Cup continues to echo the memories of its illustrious past.


### EPL Preview.

By the time you read this, QPR pulled off another shock result with a 0-0 draw against champions Manchester City, denting their title ambitions further.

That’s right, that’s the same QPR

ENGLAND

EPL



Last5games

Most recent first

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	
1 Manchester United	24	19	2	3	59	31	+28	59	W D W W W
2 Manchester City	24	15	7	2	45	19	+26	52	D W W W W
3 Chelsea	24	13	7	4	49	24	+25	46	D W D W L
4 Tottenham Hotspur	24	12	6	6	41	29	+12	42	D D D W W
5 Everton	24	10	11	3	37	27	+10	41	W D D W L
6 Arsenal	24	10	8	6	48	29	+19	38	D W L D L
7 Liverpool	24	9	8	7	42	30	+12	35	D W L W W
8 Swansea City	24	8	10	6	34	27	+7	34	D W D D W
9 West Bromwich ...	24	10	4	10	34	34	+0	34	L D L L L
10 Stoke City	24	6	12	6	24	29	-5	30	D L L L D
11 Sunderland	24	7	8	9	27	31	-4	29	D W W L L
12 Fulham	24	7	7	10	36	41	-5	28	W L D W L
13 West Ham United	24	7	6	11	27	36	-9	27	L D L D L
14 Norwich City	24	6	9	9	25	40	-15	27	D L D L L
15 Newcastle United	24	6	6	12	30	42	-12	24	W L D L L
16 Southampton	24	5	8	11	31	42	-11	23	L D D W D
17 Reading	24	4	8	12	30	45	-15	20	D W W L W
18 Wigan Athletic	24	5	5	14	27	45	-18	20	D L D L W
19 Aston Villa	24	4	8	12	20	46	-26	20	L D L D L
20 Queens Park Ra...	24	2	10	12	18	37	-19	16	D D D W L

that been rooted to the bottom of the table this season. They always say that it ultimately comes down to the players – that while managers are integral now more than ever, without the calibre of players, he can’t do much about it. Which makes QPR’s case a little more complex.

Because QPR have a very good list of players: including the likes of Park Ji-Sung, Estaban Granero, Loic Remy, Julio Cesar, Fabio Da Silva, Adel Taarabt and Shaun Wright-Phillips. That’s a collective spine of quality players, who possess the talent needed to make a decent finish in the Premier League. And a skilled manager would of made the best out of this team.

So, should QPR be better off than they are now they have a new manager in charge? After two months: has Harry Redknapp done enough?

Firstly, blame must be taken off him for their current state – that’s down to predecessor Mark Hughes’ ill-fated reign of the club, leaving Redknapp to pick up the pieces.

Secondly, he’s taken over a group filled with uninterested players,

clearly more keen on their high paycheck than their footballing status. Redknapp’s row with Jose Bosingwa and constant battles with player agents means that there is (or probably was) some player disharmony in the ranks.

Thirdly, this isn’t a team Redknapp constructed. Public knowledge is that Redknapp is a man who doesn’t mind jumping in there, fixing up moral, changing things around with the list that he’s offered, then making huge changes when the opportunity arises.

And that’s what he’s been trying to do. Reports have surfaced that he’s travelled across Europe searching for players. He’s already pull off one major coup in bringing in Remy (a player hunted by the likes of Tottenham, Arsenal and was on his way to Newcastle); now he’s set to bring in pupil Peter Crouch (who worked with him at Portsmouth and Spurs) and Christopher Samba.

It still brings us back to: has Redknapp done enough? They’re unbeaten in four; three of which were draws (against the big boys, Spurs and Manchester City) plus a smash-and-grab win over Chel-

Latest Results	This Week
Aston Villa 1 - 2 Newcastle Utd	QPR v Norwich City
QPR 0 - 0 Man City	Arsenal v Stoke City
Stoke City 2 - 2 Wigan Athletic	Everton v Aston Villa
Sunderland 0 - 0 Swansea City	Newcastle Utd v Chelsea
Arsenal 2 - 2 Liverpool	Reading v Sunderland
Norwich City 1 - 1 Tottenham	West Ham v Swansea City
Everton 2 - 1 WBA	Wigan Athletic v Southampton
Man Utd 2 - 1 Southampton	Fulham v Manchester Utd
Reading 2 - 2 Chelsea	WBA v Tottenham Hotspur
Fulham 3 - 1 West Ham	Manchester City v Liverpool

One To Watch This Weekend...  
Every season Wigan, seem to pull miraculous survival after miraculous survival. Will they do it again this year? They have a relegation six-pointer against Southampton in a game they must surely win for another miraculous escape.

sea. It’s a side that defensively they have shored up, however, during that period; they have had 84 shots against them, while only mustering up 28 shots on goal of their own. It could be said they have been lucky to come out with six points from 12.

Still though, they are bottom, four points from safety, currently held by Wigan on 20 points. Which sums up Redknapp’s form: they’ve improved, but not enough. Yes, they’ve played against all the big boys, and a point is better than zero, but surviving relegation means chalking up some wins on the board. And against Norwich City this weekend, they most certainly can win, especially given the Canaries’ poor form of late. However, will Redknapp want to release the shackles for the win?

Harry Houndini is Redknapp’s nickname that was bestowed on him when he saved Portsmouth twice. So far though, he has yet to pull out his biggest trick, if he’s going to save this bunch of performers.

Andrew Bishara runs the popular football website <http://thetrequartista.com>

# Evolve or die: Spurs searching for title success

London Eye



By Eddie Gray

Football is an industry where you cannot afford to stand still.

Forward and visionary thinking has always been rewarded and if you fail to innovate and keep up with the times then you will be left trailing behind.

Whether that be on the pitch or in the boardroom, tactical gambles have to be made in order to achieve success.

And to get to the top of the ladder, where everyone wants to be, you have to take risks which can sometimes be unfavourable, and that is exactly what Tottenham Chairman Daniel Levy did this summer when he sacked Harry Redknapp and replaced him with Andre Villas Boas.

At the time the decision looked a strange one; Redknapp had finished fourth and in doing so secured Champions League football, although they were in the end replaced by winners Chelsea, and he had produced a brand of football early on in the season which led many to believe Spurs could be genuine title challengers.

But Levy saw the situation differently and appointed Villas Boas to take the club further forward and, despite a chorus



ABV calls the shots at training

of disapproval at the start of his reign from certain sections, the man from Portugal has won over the doubters and proved the Tottenham Chairman was right to take a leap of faith when he could have so comfortably sat tight with Redknapp.

The former Chelsea manager has arguably a weaker starting eleven than his predecessor, with the summer sales of Rafael Van der Vaart to Hamburg and Luka Modric to Real Madrid, but the replacements Villas Boas brought in have slotted into his fluid 4-3-3 system well, as well as adapting to the recently deployed 4-4-2 formation, with Moussa Dembele providing composure on the ball in the centre of the field and Jan Vertonghen and Hugo Lloris vastly improving the defensive solidarity at White

Hart lane.

Away from the Premier League Spurs have progressed into the first knockout stages of the Europa League, a competition where their manager has a winning history with Porto, and are amongst the favourites to win it outright if they can adequately manage the gruelling schedule of domestic and European football.

But the Thursday Sunday matches which the Europa League provides are tough and will have to be avoided next season if Tottenham are going to step up to the next level and put together a challenge for the league title, something which could be a real possibility.

The first criteria they will have to meet is securing qualification for the Champions League by the end of the 2012/13 season.



Jermain Defoe calling the shots in front of goal

By doing this not only will they be able to recruit a better standard of player due to the lure of playing in the world’s elite club competition, but their fixture list will be far more preferable and desirable, with a day’s extra rest between games compared to what they currently get in the Europa League.

If that is achieved the foundations will be laid for a strong bid to become Premier League champions, something the club has never done, but achieving Champions League status will not be enough on its own and Spurs will still have to improve in other areas if they really are to push the two Manchester clubs and be in with a shout of league success come May 2014.

At the sharp end of the field Tottenham will have to invest in a

world class striker if they are to fire their way to the top of the table. As we have seen this season at Manchester United, Robin Van Perise has been instrumental in keeping them at the top of the division since his big summer transfer from Arsenal and has proven how crucial an exceptional goal scorer can be.

For Spurs, Jermain Defoe has been their lead striker, with Emmanuel Adebayor as his understudy, but the latter has been out of sorts for a large part of the year and if an injury were to occur to Defoe then Villas Boas would be extremely short, as was shown by their FA cup exit at the hands of Leeds when Defoe was rested and Adebayor was away at the African Cup of Nations, so investing up front is a must.

In addition to a forward who can

challenge the two front men already at White Hart Lane a mid-fielder who can add more assists to the team would benefit the side massively.

Lewis Holtby has agreed to join the club from Schalke 04 and he will add a creative spark to an already exciting attacking line, which includes Gareth Bale and Aaron Lennon, but a further mid-fielder who can provide more chances to the likes of Bale, Lennon and Defoe would be ideal.

That man could be Joao Moutinho, who Villas Boas tried to acquire when he first joined Tottenham, but he missed out on his man due to Porto and Spurs differing on their valuation of the player. Moutinho, who was the stand out performer for Portugal in the 2012 Euro’s, even eclipsing his prestigious team-mate Cristiano Ronaldo, would suit Spurs’s approach as his incisive and quick passing would release the pace of Bale and Lennon far more frequently. The Portuguese central midfielder also displayed tremendous work rate which would enable him to adapt to the Premier League easily due to its ferocious and high tempo style making him an excellent acquisition if the transfer can be made.

If Villas Boas can achieve the obvious goals he has been set this season, getting Champions League football, and then is backed in the summer transfer window, the man from Portugal could have an excellent chance of taking Tottenham to the summit of the Premier League by the end of 2014.







CROATIA

1.HNL



Last5games  
Most recent first

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	
1 Dinamo Zagreb	18	13	2	3	39	14	+25	41	W L W L W
2 Hajduk Split	19	9	6	4	27	14	+13	33	W D D D W
3 Lokomotiva	19	9	5	5	27	21	+6	32	W L W D W
4 Rijeka	19	9	5	5	28	23	+5	32	D D W W L
5 Slaven Koprivnica	19	9	4	6	28	26	+2	31	D W L W L
6 Split	19	9	3	7	28	22	+6	30	L W W L W
7 Osijek	18	5	8	5	19	17	+2	23	L D L D L
8 Istra 1961	19	5	5	9	17	22	-5	20	D L D L W
9 Inter Zaprešić	19	4	7	8	21	25	-4	19	L L L W D
10 Zadar	19	4	5	10	20	36	-16	17	W D W L W
11 Cibalia	19	4	4	11	16	31	-15	16	L D L W L
12 Zagreb	19	4	4	11	12	31	-19	16	W D W L L


GERMANY Bundesliga



Last5games  
Most recent first

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	
1 Bayern München	19	15	3	1	48	7	+41	48	WWDWD
2 Bayer Leverkusen	19	11	4	4	36	23	+13	37	DWWLW
3 Borussia Dortmund	19	10	6	3	43	20	+23	36	WWWLD
4 Eintracht Fran...	19	10	3	6	36	31	+5	33	WLWWL
5 Mainz 05	19	9	3	7	27	21	+6	30	WDWLW
6 Schalke 04	19	8	5	6	32	29	+3	29	DWLDD
7 Borussia M'gla...	19	7	8	4	27	27	+0	29	WDDWD
8 Freiburg	19	7	7	5	24	18	+6	28	DDWDD
9 Hamburger SV	19	8	4	7	22	24	-2	28	WDLWD
10 Hannover 96	19	8	2	9	38	37	+1	26	WLLWL
11 Stuttgart	19	7	4	8	21	32	-11	25	LLLWW
12 Werder Bremen	19	6	4	9	30	37	-7	22	LLDLW
13 Wolfsburg	19	6	4	9	20	29	-9	22	LWLWD
14 Fortuna Düsseldorf	19	5	6	8	23	27	-4	21	LLWLW
15 Nürnberg	19	5	6	8	18	26	-8	21	LDWWL
16 Augsburg	19	2	7	10	15	31	-16	13	DWDDL
17 Hoffenheim	19	3	4	12	24	43	-19	13	LDLLL
18 Greuther Fürth	19	1	6	12	11	33	-22	9	LDLLL

# THE CHAMPIONSHIP



	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Cardiff City	28	19	3	6	50	30	+20	60	W D W W W
2 Leicester City	28	15	5	8	49	23	+26	50	W W W W D
3 Hull City	28	15	5	8	39	31	+8	50	D L D W D
4 Watford	29	15	4	10	56	39	+17	49	L W W W L
5 Crystal Palace	29	13	9	7	50	36	+14	48	L D L W D
6 Middlesbrough	28	15	2	11	47	39	+8	47	L L L W W
7 Brighton & Hov...	28	10	12	6	40	30	+10	42	D D W W L
8 Burnley	29	12	6	11	44	42	+2	42	L W W W L
9 Millwall	29	11	8	10	40	40	+0	41	L L D W L
10 Nottingham Forest	29	10	11	8	39	40	-1	41	L D W L D
11 Leeds United	28	12	5	11	39	44	-5	41	W L W L L
12 Charlton Athletic	29	10	9	10	39	40	-1	39	L W W W D
13 Derby County	28	10	8	10	42	41	+1	38	D L W D L
14 Blackpool	29	9	10	10	47	43	+4	37	W L L D L
15 Blackburn Rovers	28	9	10	9	38	37	+1	37	D L D W W
16 Huddersfield Town	29	9	11	33	48	-15	36	W L D L D	
17 Bolton Wanderers	28	8	10	10	40	41	-1	34	D L L W L
18 Birmingham City	29	8	10	11	38	46	-8	34	W D D L L
19 Wolverhampton ...	29	9	6	14	34	41	-7	33	L D D L L
20 Sheffield Wedn...	29	9	5	15	33	44	-11	32	W D W L D
21 Ipswich Town	29	8	8	13	29	51	-22	32	L D D L W
22 Barnsley	29	7	7	15	31	44	-13	28	W D W L L
23 Bristol City	29	8	4	17	42	56	-14	28	W W L L L
24 Peterborough U...	28	8	2	18	39	52	-13	26	D L W L W

# Greece Super League



	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Olympiakos Piraeus	19	16	3	0	42	10	+32	51	W W W W W
2 Asteras Tripolis	19	11	4	4	27	11	+16	37	W W W W L
3 PAOK	19	10	5	4	25	12	+13	35	L D W W
4 Atromitos	19	8	8	3	19	14	+5	32	L D W D W
5 Levadiakos	19	8	3	8	16	17	-1	27	L W L W W
6 PAS Giannina	19	7	5	7	18	17	+1	26	W L D D L
7 Panathinaikos	19	6	9	4	20	19	+1	25	W D D L L
8 Panionios	19	8	1	10	22	26	-4	25	W D L L L
9 OFI	19	6	5	8	21	24	-3	23	L W D L W
10 Xanthi	19	5	7	7	15	17	-2	22	W D L W D
11 Panthrakikos	19	6	4	9	19	23	-4	22	L D D L W
12 AEK Athens	19	5	4	10	16	22	-6	19	W D W L D
13 Plataniás	19	4	6	9	15	24	-9	18	L D D L L
14 Aris	19	3	3	9	7	17	-11	18	D D L W D
15 Veria	19	3	7	9	12	25	-13	16	L D L W D
16 Kerkyra	19	2	8	9	9	24	-15	14	D D L L L

TURKEY

Süper Lig



Last5games  
Most recent first

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	
1 Galatasaray	19	10	6	3	37	23	+14	36	WLDWW
2 Fenerbahçe	19	8	7	4	29	22	+7	31	WDLWL
3 Beşiktaş	19	8	7	4	41	29	+12	31	LDWDD
4 Antalyaspor	19	9	3	7	31	29	+2	30	LLWWD
5 Kasımpaşa	19	8	5	6	29	21	+8	29	WWLLD
6 Eskişehirspor	19	7	7	5	34	24	+10	28	WDLDD
7 Bursaspor	19	6	9	4	29	25	+4	27	LWDDW
8 Gençlerbirliği	19	6	9	4	31	29	+2	27	WWD DD
9 Karabükspor	19	8	3	8	26	30	-4	27	LWWWW
10 İstanbul BB	19	7	4	8	25	23	+2	25	WDWWL
11 Trabzonspor	19	6	6	7	21	21	+0	24	LLDLD
12 Sivasspor	19	6	5	8	21	27	-6	23	LDWLL
13 Kayserispor	19	6	4	9	25	31	-6	22	WLWLD
14 Orduspor	19	4	9	6	20	21	-1	21	LDLDD
15 Gaziantepspor	19	5	6	8	17	26	-9	21	LDWDL
16 Elazığspor	19	4	8	7	16	30	-14	20	WDLDD
17 Mersin İdmanyurdu	19	4	7	8	22	28	-6	19	WDLWL
18 Akhisar Beledi...	19	3	7	9	13	28	-15	16	LDWDL


HOLLAND

Eredivisie



	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 PSV	20	14	1	5	66	22	+44	43	WLWDW
2 Twente	20	12	6	2	35	14	+21	42	DDWWL
3 Ajax	20	11	7	2	47	23	+24	40	LWDWW
4 Vitesse	20	11	5	4	38	24	+14	38	WLLED
5 Feyenoord	20	11	5	4	37	26	+11	38	DLWWD
6 Utrecht	20	10	6	4	29	20	+9	36	WWDWD
7 NEC	20	7	6	7	26	33	-7	27	WLLED
8 ADO Den Haag	20	5	10	5	33	32	+1	25	DDWLD
9 AZ	20	6	6	8	31	34	-3	24	WWLWD
10 RKC Waalwijk	20	5	8	7	24	26	-2	23	LDLDD
11 Heracles	20	5	8	7	37	40	-3	23	LWDL
12 Groningen	20	5	5	10	19	32	-13	20	LLDL
13 NAC Breda	20	5	5	10	20	37	-17	20	WWLDD
14 PEC Zwolle	20	4	7	9	21	31	-10	19	DWDL
15 Heerenveen	20	4	7	9	28	40	-12	19	DLWLD
16 Roda JC	20	4	7	9	26	39	-13	19	DWWDD
17 VVV	20	3	6	11	23	43	-20	15	LLDD
18 Willem II	20	2	7	11	18	42	-24	13	LDLDD

# LEAGUE ONE



	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Tranmere Rovers	29	16	8	5	46	26	+20	56	WLWWW
2 Doncaster Rovers	28	17	5	6	43	25	+18	56	WWWWD
3 Swindon Town	28	14	8	6	49	19	+30	50	DWDWW
4 Brentford	28	13	11	4	41	27	+14	50	DLWDD
5 AFC Bournemouth	29	13	10	6	50	39	+11	49	WWLDD
6 Sheffield United	28	12	12	4	39	26	+13	48	DDLWL
7 Yeovil Town	28	14	3	11	45	39	+6	45	WWWLW
8 Coventry City	30	12	8	10	49	38	+11	44	DWWLL
9 Notts County	28	11	10	7	41	29	+12	43	WLWDL
10 Milton Keynes Donso	27	12	7	8	39	28	+11	43	LDWLL
11 Crawley Town	27	12	5	10	36	39	-3	41	LWLWL
12 Walsall	30	11	8	11	40	45	-5	41	LWWWW
13 Crewe Alexandra	28	11	7	10	35	37	-2	40	LWLWW
14 Stevenage	26	11	7	8	34	36	-2	40	LWLLL
15 Leyton Orient	29	12	4	13	32	36	-4	40	DWDDL
16 Preston North End	28	8	11	9	37	36	+1	35	DLWLD
17 Carlisle United	28	9	6	13	35	50	-15	33	DWLLW
18 Shrewsbury Town	30	6	13	11	31	37	-6	31	DLDDW
19 Oldham Athletic	29	7	6	16	28	41	-13	27	LLLDL
20 Colchester United	28	7	5	16	27	44	-17	26	WLLLL
21 Scunthorpe United	28	6	8	14	29	48	-19	26	DWDDL
22 Bury	28	4	11	13	27	42	-15	23	DDLLD
23 Portsmouth	28	5	6	17	30	49	-19	21	LLLLL
24 Hartlepool United	28	3	7	18	23	50	-27	16	WLDLW



# W-LEAGUE CHAMPIONS 2013



**Westfield W-League Grand Final Review**

**Melbourne Victory 1** (Petra Larsson 41')  
**Sydney FC 3** (Nicola Bolger 25', Samantha Kerr 48', Kyah Simon 86' (pen))  
Sunday 27 January 2013, AAMI Park, Melbourne  
Local Kick-off: 3.30pm, Referee: Kate Jacsewicz

**Melbourne Victory:** 1. Brianna Davey (gk), 2. Danielle Johnson, 3. Maika Ruyter-Hooley (c), 4. Rebekah Stott, 5. Laura Spiranovic, 6. Petra Larsson, 7. Stephanie Catley, 10. Jessica McDonald (23, Jessica Humble 73'), 14. Enza Barilla, 15. Amy Jackson, 17. Gulcan Koca

Substitutes not used: 20. Cassandra Dimovski (gk), 9. Tiffany Eliadis, 11. Caitlin Friend, 18. Cindy Lay

Yellow Cards: nil  
Red Cards: Maika Ruyter-Hooley 85'

**Sydney FC:** 20. Sham Khamis (gk), 2. Teresa Polias, 3. Elizabeth Ralston, 4. Samantha Kerr, 7. Nicola Bolger (13, Larissa Crummer 80'), 9. Caitlin Foord, 10. Renee Rollason, 11. Annaliese Longo (18, Brittany Whitfield 90'+3), 12. Chloe Logarzo (6, Natalie Tobin 86'), 14. Alanna Kennedy, 17. Kyah Simon

Substitutes not used: 1. Sian McClaren (gk), 8. Amy Harrison

Yellow cards: nil  
Red cards: nil

PHOTO : ANITA MILAS